WE WORSHIP

by

RUTH IRWIN REX

This is the first published collection of worship services designed especially to provide small and non-departmentalized church schools with worship materials that are comparable to those now available for use in the larger, departmentalized schools. The book is the result of experiments carried out in a small church school, and is based upon modern theories of religious education. It contains an introductory chapter which explains in a simple manner the theory underlying the services and twelve chapters each of which gives services for a whole month. Each service is presented in full with story material and music for the responses, so that no supplementary books are necessary.

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WE WORSHIP

WE WORSHIP

SERVICES OF WORSHIP FOR THE SMALL CHURCH SCHOOL

BY

RUTH IRWIN REX

THE CENTURY CO.

New York *London*

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To My

MOTHER AND FATHER

WHO GAVE TO ME
THAT GREAT GIFT

A Christian Home

PREFACE

The services in this book are the outgrowth of an attempt to meet, in a definite way, the small church school's need for training in worship. They are offered in the hope that they may help leaders of small church schools in their task of bringing their children into a natural, unfolding, personal relationship with the Heavenly Father.

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RUTH IRWIN REX

The Rectory,
Tariffville, Connecticut.
April 1, 1930.

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WE WORSHIP

CHAPTER ONE

WHY AND HOW WE WORSHIP

The desire to worship is a part of each of us. We cannot all worship in exactly the same manner or to the same degree. But we can all worship; and we need to worship if our lives are to be in any measure complete, if our personalities are to grow and to find their highest form of expression.

Because we need to worship, it does not follow that we come into the world fully equipped to meet this need. Training in the art of worship is necessary. Before we begin the discussion of this training, it is well to remind ourselves that, important as it is, it has its limitations. Training in the art of worship can give the tools of worship, and the opportunity to use them. It can tell why to worship, how to worship, and when to worship. It may even hope to develop attitudes and appreciations which will bring about an active, intelligent expression of the inherent desire to worship.

But training in worship is not worship. We who are the leaders must keep this distinction clearly before us. We must be sure not merely that our children are "exposed to worship," but that they enter naturally and directly into the experience of worship, not as something external, but as something that is a part of themselves. They must learn actually to "practise the presence of God." We must not be so impressed by the importance of the service we are conducting that we forget to look into the faces of the children.

The proper emphasis on worship in the church school is essential if the integrity of religious education is to be maintained. Without worship and training in worship, religious education is in constant danger of becoming identified with moral education. The one is built on a code of ethics, the other should be built on an unfolding personal relationship with God. The one is abstract, the other is intensely personal. Class instruction about the meaning and nature of God is not enough. If religion is to become a vital relationship, it can no longer be confined to descriptive teaching in the third person; it must be experienced

in the first and second persons. It is, therefore, the duty and privilege of the church school to guide its pupils in worship. It can do this in two ways: by supplying them with materials of worship, and by providing them with an environment conducive to worship, in which they can use what they have learned.

MATERIALS OF WORSHIP

The materials of worship are hymns, portions of the Bible and selections from other literature of spiritual value, responses (either said or sung), prayers, and the offering.

Both music and words of hymns should be considered when a selection is being made. The music should be dignified and should express a sane, but exalted, emotion. The words should convey spiritual truths which are, or which may become, the convictions and aspirations of those who utter them. If the service is to progress smoothly, familiar hymns are desirable. This may mean a limited range of selection. Hence there should be definite provision for learning new hymns, during the assembly period preceding the worship service.

It is a mistake to assume that children like

only such hymns as "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus," or that their musical appreciation is confined to revivalistic songs. Surely these are not, and cannot be, the medium of worship. The children sing them, lustily, it may be objected. Of course they do. Children like to sing; but actual test shows that if given an opportunity, they prefer "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty," "For the Beauty of the Earth," and countless others which are hymns, not jazzy songs with a religious theme. It is a part of the child's religious heritage to know and love the great hymns of the church. Any church school which is sincerely concerned about the religious development of its pupils will provide them with good hymn books, and will guide and encourage them in their use of the great hymns of the ages.

Responses, either said or sung, should never be used simply to elaborate the order of worship. If they are used, it should be because they give each member of the group an opportunity to participate actively in the several parts of the service. For example, the Call to Worship draws attention to the presence of God, it re-

minds the worshipers of His majesty and goodness, it is an invitation to worship. The response expresses the group's consciousness of God's presence and the desire to worship Him.

The Scripture lessons should be chosen because of their inherent worship value, or because of their bearing on the theme for the day. A psalm, or other portion of the Bible, which has been memorized, should be recited, either by a class or by the entire school, whenever it is appropriate.

The prayer is the high point in the service. All that precedes it is by way of preparation; all that comes after it is by way of expressing the emotions and desires it has produced. The prayer should be brief, expressed in simple, direct, and dignified language. The leader should not use the prayer as a means of preaching to the group. Instead, as their spokesman, he voices their adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication, and consecration to the Father. If the Lord's Prayer is used, care should be taken that it is prayed and not recited; and that it is prayed slowly enough for the younger children also to pray it.

Since kneeling is the universal and natural

posture of prayer, the children should be trained to kneel during the leader's prayer. It will help them appreciate the true significance of prayer for the leader to face in the same direction as they face. If he faces toward them, they naturally feel themselves to be the center of interest, but if he and they face the same direction, their attention will naturally be directed toward God, to Whom he is speaking.

In many schools, the offering is treated as a trivial part of the service. It must be so if the offering is regarded as the means by which the material needs of the school are to be supplied. If the offering is included in a service of worship it should be because of the conviction that the giving of one's substance to God is one means of expressing thanks and consecration. If the church is not far-sighted enough to include the cost of church school supplies in its annual budget, the necessary amount must be deducted from the church school offering. In that case, the emphasis with the children should not be upon quarterlies, textbooks, picture cards, story papers, and the like, but upon the fact that in his eagerness to know about Jesus and his friends, and in his thankfulness

for the love of the Heavenly Father, each child wishes to bring some gift to his school each time he comes. Then, too, only a fraction of the offering should go for the support of the local school. The remainder is for others: home and foreign missions. It should be clear in the minds of the children who these "others" are. Their gifts should go to the support of some particular child (or children). A leader can obtain information and assistance from the headquarters of any denomination.

PLACE OF WORSHIP

The place of worship will, to some degree, be determined by the immediate situation. It seems distinctly preferable for the small school to worship in the church auditorium. All the departments of a larger school cannot have this advantage. In any case, the most worshipful surroundings obtainable should be used. It is a mistake to suppose that, because children are the chief participants, the place where the service is held must be made bright and distracting by many pictures, charts, etc. On the other hand, somberness, austerity, and hypocritical piety are not to be the keynotes of the

service. The surroundings should embody quiet, rich, warm dignity. Whether we like it, or not, the surroundings in the midst of which we worship are a large determining factor in the quality of that worship.

ARRANGEMENT OF MATERIALS

We now come to the planning of the service itself. The materials of worship for any service should be so chosen and arranged that they will maintain unity and dignity, and at the same time make recognition of the needs of the several age groups. The church school service of worship is not primarily for adults, although they very possibly need as much training in worship as the children. Wide variety in arrangement and general content is not necessary or desirable. The church school, in its worship service, is not endeavoring to entertain the children, but to help them to worship. One cannot worship when the new or unexpected is frequently appearing to distract one's attention. In our attempts to avoid the boredom and indifference due to unthinking familiarity, we are apt to overlook the great spiritual values arising from meaning-

ful repetition. In this matter, we should do well to follow the practice of those branches of the Christian church which have preserved for us a beautiful and meaningful form of worship.

In order to use an order of service as a medium of worship, one must have some understanding of the content of the service, some appreciation of the purpose and value of its component parts. If there is a theme, one needs to have that pointed out before the service begins. To interrupt the service itself in order to make explanations is unwise, for the intrusion of mechanical details causes the feeling tone of the service to be lost. This is another way of saying that there must be a preworship or assembly period. During this period, all announcements and explanations should be made, memory drill should take place, and if there is a special theme for the service it should be presented.

The small school should have worship services prepared to meet its special needs and resources. It cannot use, to advantage, services intended for a single department of a departmentally organized school. That it can no

longer be content with the traditional "opening exercises" is obvious to those who take seriously the important function of the small school. The difficulty with many of the services for the small school which are now appearing is that they are too abstract for the younger children.

From the point of view of the material content, it is difficult to construct a worship service which will appeal to all ages. If the material content were the whole service, it would not be worth while to attempt it. But after all, the feeling tone, the atmosphere, of the service is the important thing. The materials which help determine it should all be simple, direct, and dignified. Each section of material will not be equally appropriate for all age groups; but if the service is properly planned, there will be elements in the service especially suited to the needs of each group.

The services on the following pages are far from being theoretically perfect. They are the outgrowth of an attempt to meet an actual situation. Accordingly, they represent a transition stage between the old "opening exercises" and a finished order of worship. Each

school presents its own problems. The leader must not overlook these and merely impose an order of service on a group which is not ready for it. On the other hand, unless there is some definite plan, the leader is in danger of wandering aimlessly in the great mass of so-called worship materials which are now being published. These services are offered, therefore, as services which have been found usable. They are given in detail as one records the observations and results of an experiment.

ANALYSIS OF ORDER OF SERVICE

All the services on the following pages are of this order:

- Assembly period
  - Announcements
    - Announcements as to the service to follow
    - General announcements
  - Memory Drill
    - Scripture
    - Hymns
    - Responses
  - Presentation of Theme for the Day
- Worship Period
  - Prelude

Call to Worship ..... Response
Hymn
Lord's Prayer
Scripture Lesson
Prayer ..... Response
Offering ..... Response
Hymn
Closing Sentences

The announcements need no discussion, save the caution to keep them as simple and brief as possible.

The memory drill will have definite purpose in the minds of the children if the materials learned during one month are used in the worship services for the following month. Unless carefully supervised, the memory drill will become monotonous and uninteresting. This is the place for variety in procedure. In learning Scripture passages, the pupils should be asked to read them in unison several times. It is surprising how quickly the beautiful Hebrew poetry and the vivid language of the Gospels can be learned in this way. If properly learned portions of the Bible will do much to develop the children's appreciation for great literature. The leader should make any ex-

planations or interpretations that he thinks desirable (as briefly as possible). As well as learning new materials, those which have previously been learned should be frequently reviewed.

The words and music of the responses should be memorized. It is not intended that the hymns should be learned in this way. They are included in order that the children may have an opportunity to become familiar with the music and with the relation between words and music. Therefore each stanza should be sung. In general, all hymns should be sung from the first through the last stanza. To make arbitrary omissions interrupts the unity and progress of the thought. Other hymns than those suggested may be practised, especially those to be used during the following month.

Experiment shows that there is value in having a definite theme for each service. The theme is something concrete for the child. Also, if the elements of the service are chosen because of their relation to the theme, the service will have unity. The plan for the following services is to choose a general theme for each month. In most cases, the theme is

expressed by a single word, a word which will have meaning for all ages, e. g., Joy, Courage, Thanksgiving. The specific theme for each Sunday of the month attempts to make the abstract word concrete; for example, to suggest definite ways in which one may offer thanks. The theme for the last Sunday of each month introduces the missionary emphasis. Leaders of small schools need especially to develop within their children a spirit of true friendship for all God's children, that their outlook may be broadened until it becomes a world outlook.

The theme may be presented by a story, by the dramatization of some Bible story, or by a short talk.

This is not the place to discuss the art of story-telling. To tell a story well requires practice. The leader should read the story through several times before attempting to tell it. He should note how the author tells it. He should remember that the important thing is not to tell the story, but to tell the story *to the children*. He should not spoil it by tacking on a moral. If a story is worth telling, the hearers will grasp its teaching. It is the plan of

the following services to use a story on missionary Sunday, in the hope that through the stories the children will become better acquainted with the customs of other races, and will learn to regard them as desirable friends.

A Bible dramatization need not be an elaborate affair. If all the emphasis is on details, spontaneity is lost and much of the teaching value is gone. The leader should choose a class to act the story and notify the teacher in advance so that she and her class may have sufficient time to work out their dramatization. The teacher will tell the children the story several times. They will tell it back to her and will talk it over, together. They will then choose their parts. The teacher may introduce other characters, if desirable. The children will then act the story, using their own language. If a child questions what he is to do or say next, the teacher will go over that part of the story again, and will urge the child to make believe, very hard, that he is the person in the story. The children will know what to do and say better than an older person. If the story has been properly told, and they interpret it in their own way, they will never

forget it, or its teaching. Older pupils will prefer to work out a more careful production; perhaps they will write out their dramatization and learn their parts.

If the theme is introduced by a short talk, the leader should be careful to make it understood, in some measure, by all. This does not mean talking down to the children. They are the first to recognize and resent such an indignity.

After the theme has been presented, the worship service begins. The prelude is played by the organist. (The leader should sit reverently while the prelude is played.) In the following services, the preludes are hymns, so chosen because of their accessibility, and, in some cases, because of their word associations. The pupils should be trained to sit reverently during the prelude. Unless its purpose and importance is made clear to the pupils, there is no value in including a prelude. One cannot worship until one's mind is made ready. One must stop thinking of many things and center the attention on God, His goodness, His care, His love; upon Jesus Christ and His relation to present-day life. The presentation of the

theme (which immediately precedes the prelude) should suggest appropriate thoughts to the minds of the worshipers.

The Call to Worship is given by the leader. The pupils respond. The first hymn should satisfy the desire and emotion expressed in the Call to Worship and its response. The Lord's Prayer is *prayed* in unison, while the pupils are still standing. The Scripture Lesson may be read by the leader, or may be recited by a class or the entire school. The prayer by the leader may at times be replaced by prayers written by the pupils of the several classes, with the aid of their respective teachers. The working out of such prayers is an important aspect of the devotional training of the child. The prayer response is the children's prayer. If it has been talked over with them, they will make it their own. The Offertory Sentence is said by the leader. The plates are passed by two of the younger children. It is desirable to have quiet music while the plates are being passed. When the offering is presented, the response is sung, as the children's dedication of their gift. The final hymn should give expression to the theme of the service, and to the

renewed consecration of the worshipers. The Closing Sentences are said in unison, the pupils standing.

The same Call to Worship and the same set of responses are used for the entire month. The plan in the school for which these services were originally worked out, is to have the Primary and Junior children learn the responses during the week-day religious education periods of the month preceding their use. This gives the younger children a feeling that they have an important part in the service. On the first Sunday of the month, the words are written on the blackboard,[1] in order that the older pupils may take part. They are urged to learn any new materials as promptly as possible, for the presence of the blackboard does not add worship value to the service. If there is no other opportunity, new responses should be learned by all during the assembly periods of the month preceding their use. There is no need for a great number of responses. The same group may be repeated every three or four months.

[1] Use portable blackboard (or song chart) which can be removed before the worship period begins.

The hymns have been taken from the "Hymnal for American Youth." Other hymns than those suggested may be used, provided they are worshipful and contribute to the unity and progressive development of the service. The alternative hymns listed at the end of each service should be used in the order given.

BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE

It is a good thing to make recognition of the birthday of each pupil in the school. One way is to have a "birthday box." In one school, each pupil brings as many pennies as he is years old on the Sunday nearest his birthday. At the appointed time he drops these into the box. The box is opened twice a year, and the contents is the nucleus of the school's missionary gifts. In order to make this part of the service more impressive for the Beginners, Primaries, and Juniors, it is customary on "birthday Sundays" for these three groups to march in from the vestibule, the "birthday child" leading, and carrying a small white banner with a silver cross. During the processional, the children and the older pupils sing some appropriate song; for example,

"Can a Little Child Like Me" (see Appendix). As the children come to the chancel the "birthday child" stops at the center, the other children going alternately to each side. When the song is ended, the leader takes the banner and holds the box so that the child may drop in his pennies. The leader then offers a sentence prayer of thanksgiving for and consecration of the child (calling him by name). The children take their seats and the assembly period begins.[1]

THE LEADER

This type of service does not require specially trained leadership. A person who would conduct these services successfully must have a deep spirit of consecration, an understanding love for children, and an appreciation of simple, dignified worship.

He should prepare himself thoroughly for each service. He should acquaint himself with the content of each service in advance. It is intended that he should not merely read the talks, but know their contents so that he can

[1] I am indebted to Mrs. John Murphy, former Primary teacher at Redding Center, Connecticut, for the suggestion of this service.

talk directly to his pupils. If the prayers are read, they should be read in such a manner that they seem truly prayed, not merely read through as a matter of form. There is no provision for the fifth Sundays. It is expected that the leader will plan his own services for these days, using the regular elements he finds for the four Sundays given. Stories for Palm Sunday and Easter will be found in the Appendix.

It is sometimes difficult for the leader to develop the coöperation of the pupils. Often this is because they do not understand what he is trying to do. He should not become impatient; perhaps he can only gradually make the changes he desires. But if he is sympathetic and persistent, he will, in time, lead them to appreciate the value of real worship. It may help him to remember that a worship service, no matter how good it may be theoretically, has no value unless it can become a medium through which the worshipers can give expression of their sincere desire for communion with God.

CHAPTER TWO

SEPTEMBER: WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY: WORSHIPING GOD IN HIS WORLD

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

Scripture: Psalm 100

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

We come to church to worship God; we spend a period at the beginning of our church school session learning how best to worship Him, yet perhaps some of us do not understand clearly just what it is to worship. Jesus taught us to call God, Father, because he knew we could best understand how God loves us, and how we can show our love for Him, if we grow up to think of Him in much the same way as we

think of our fathers and mothers here on earth. We know our fathers and mothers love us because of the way they care for us, and make our homes happy places in which to live. To show that we love them, we try to help them, we talk with them about the things we do and think, and then we sit quietly while they talk to us. Sometimes we sing or play for them; and often we bring them gifts. It is like that with the Heavenly Father, too. The things we do together here are to show God that we thank Him for His loving care, that we love Him, and that we want to help Him.

One of the ways God shows us how much He loves us, and wants us to be happy, is by giving us such a beautiful world in which to live. Everything around us is telling us that God loves us; but sometimes we are so stupid that we do not see or hear. Let us always try to remember that the world is one of God's gifts to us, and in our service this morning let us thank the Heavenly Father for sharing it with us.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

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"O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker."

RESPONSE I [1] (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of thee,
Heaven and earth are praising thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "For the Beauty of the Earth"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 65

PRAYER:

Our Father, God, we thank Thee for the beautiful world Thou hast given us. Help us to understand that the sunshine and the rain, the trees and the green grass, the birds and the flowers are all telling us of Thy love and care. Help us to share that love and care with those who are not so happy as we are. We pray in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;

[1] For music for this response, and for all responses, see Appendix.

Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere." [1]

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "This Is My Father's World"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,

[1] From *Carols*. By permission of the Leyda Publishing Co., Wapello, Iowa.

Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Lord, Thy Glory Fills the Heavens." "My God, I Thank Thee."

SECOND SUNDAY: WORSHIPING GOD IN OUR HOMES AND IN HIS HOUSE

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Most of us learn to know and love the Heavenly Father in our homes. If God's love were not there, Jesus would never have taught us to call God, Father. We worship God in our homes by being kind and thoughtful and loving, by helping in every way that we can; but most important of all by our morning and evening prayers and grace before meals. These things all help us to remember that our Heavenly Father is always there, loving and caring for us.

While we are thinking of our homes, we want to think about God's house, this church and other churches. We come to church to sing songs to show Him how happy we are, to talk to Him, and to listen while He talks to us, and to bring Him our gifts. We can do these things wherever we are, on any day; but Sunday is God's special day, and we like to spend a part of it in His house.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of thee,
Heaven and earth are praising thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 23 (Unison)

PRAYER:

O God, our Father, we thank Thee for our homes and for our families who love and care for us. Help us to remember that they are Thy gift to us. Help us so to live that we may show our thankfulness to them and to Thee. We thank Thee for Thy church. Forgive us because we have not always spent a part of Thy day in Thy house. Help us to know that Thou art here, and that here we can best worship Thee. In Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father."

"Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our heart with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Come, Thou Almighty King." "Blest Be the Tie That Binds Our Hearts in Christian Love."

THIRD SUNDAY: WORSHIPING GOD AS JESUS DID

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

People have always worshiped some god, but Jesus was the first person who taught men how to worship the true God, the Heavenly Father. When he lived here on earth, Jesus was very busy, making sick people well and teach-

ing people how to live happily together. But he was never so busy that he could not find time to talk with the Father. The friends who were always with Jesus saw this; and they saw that after Jesus had been talking and listening to God, he came back to them happy, and rested, and with a wonderful smile on his face. The friends wanted to learn to talk with God as Jesus did, so one day they asked him to teach them how. It made Jesus very happy to know that his friends wanted to talk with the Heavenly Father. He taught them the prayer that the friends of Jesus all over the world still say to-day. We call it the Lord's Prayer.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Monsell

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of thee,

Heaven and earth are praising thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 11: 1–4

PRAYER:

Let us pray together the prayer that Jesus has taught to all who are his friends (the Lord's Prayer).

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children (Soft music)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "I Think When I Read That Sweet Story"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Love Divine, All Love Excelling." "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind."

FOURTH SUNDAY: WORSHIPING GOD BY LOVING ALL HIS CHILDREN

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Once upon a time a very beautiful church was being built, and before it was done all the people said: "Now the time has come to get the very finest artist in the world to make us a wonderful picture in glass for our stained-glass window over the choir."

So, as Grown-Up people have a way of doing, they left it to a very wise Committee to choose the artist and the subject of the picture. Because the name of the church was to be "The Church of the Christ-Child" they wanted the picture to be about little children. . . .

Well, our artist painted and painted and painted, day after day, until he made what he knew was the very best picture he had ever painted and he loved every inch of the canvas: For there was Jesus, and all around Him the dearest, loveliest, happiest children you can imagine, singing—oh, you could almost hear them singing "Glory! Glory! Glory be to God on High," as they stood around the Saviour with their sweet white throats full of beautiful music!

The Artist was perfectly delighted with his work, and as it was all done, he sent word to

the wise Committee to come the next morning to see it, to be sure they liked it—before he started the glass window picture, you understand?

Then he went to bed. And he went to sleep, still very happy over the finished picture in his studio. But in the middle of the night he was quite sure he heard a little noise in the studio where his precious picture stood. He listened. Yes! he knew he heard sounds there. So he got up and hurried in, and there he found a Stranger with His thumb through the artist's palette, actually painting on the Artist's picture!

The Artist rushed up crying: "Oh, stop! Stop! you are ruining it! Oh, look what you have done already! You have spoiled it—and alas! alas! the Committee are coming tomorrow morning."

The Stranger turned calmly around, and just as calmly He said: "When I came into the room I saw that you had spoiled it yourself, so I am merely making it right. You had five colors left on your palette—why did you use only one color for the faces of the little

children? Who told you their faces are all white in Heaven?"

The Artist looked surprised as he tried to think. "Why, no one ever told me, Sir, but I always thought of it that way!"

The Stranger smiled kindly: "But now, of course, you see how wrong you were. I simply used these other colors and made some of the faces yellow and some brown and some red and some black, for these little ones have come from many lands in answer to my call—"

"Your call?" asked the Artist, puzzled. "What call was that, Sir?"

The Stranger's wonderful voice replied in words that sounded strangely familiar: "Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Then the Artist knew that the Stranger must indeed be the Lord Jesus Himself; but even as he knew it, the Stranger was gone, and the Artist was alone facing his changed picture. And as he looked he smiled happily: for there were some dear little yellow children with slant-up eyes, and he knew they were singing

"Glory! Glory! Glory be to God on High," in Chinese! And next to them were quaint little brown children with great brown eyes, and next to them black children, and next to them, dear little red children: the happiest, loveliest lot of children, and white ones, too!

The Artist looked and looked and looked, he was so pleased picking out where the children came from: "You came from India, you dear little brown fellows with turbans, and you cunning brown girls in gay shawls! You brown boys with red caps are from Arabia; and you little black children—you're from Africa; while you red ones live near me right in America,—you're American Indians." It seemed as if he kept on standing there looking and looking, and loving it better and better all night long . . . when all of a sudden he woke up, to find the morning sun shining in the window, and there he was: in bed! He simply could not understand.

He rushed into the studio, and there stood his picture—and all the little faces were white, just like yours! Then he knew he had had a dream, but such a beautiful dream he could never forget again.

You will remember that the Committee were coming that morning to judge the picture, and oh! how he worked trying to make it look exactly the way the Stranger had made it look in his dream! And sure enough, one by one quaint little yellow faces with slant-up eyes, and little brown faces with little brown eyes, and smiling black faces with smiling eyes began to appear, and that picture became just as lovely as the dream picture had been.

Then the wise Committee arrived, and they loved it, right off! only of course they used big words about it, in the way Grown-Up people do—"Captivating!" and "Entrancing!" "Fascinating!" "Such marvelous characterization!" and oh, dear me! a great many other equally big words. But one sweet quiet lady, the mother of lively boys and girls like you, said with a happy sigh: "Why it's God's Family at home with Him, isn't it? I love it."

And I think God's Family will always mean all those five colors to you and me. Won't it? [1]

[1] "How the Artist Forgot Four Colors," Margaret Applegarth: from *Missionary Stories for Little Folk,* First Series, Primary, by Margaret T. Applegarth. Copyright, The Board of Publication and Bible-School Work of the Reformed Church in America. Used by permission.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Salve Domine

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of thee,
Heaven and earth are praising thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Light of the World, We Hail Thee."

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 117

PRAYER:

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away." [1]

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

[1] From the *Mayflower,* by Elizabeth T. Turner. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

HYMN: "Christ for the World We Sing"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun."
"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations."

CHAPTER THREE

OCTOBER: SERVICE

FIRST SUNDAY: HELPING AT HOME

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

Scripture: Psalm 95: 1–7a

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

The theme we are to think about during the Sundays of this month is Service. To serve means to help. There is another word that also begins with the letter "h" which always goes with the word help—it is "happy." Unless we are willing and glad to help, we are not truly serving. I suspect Jesus was so happy because he was always helping people. There are so many ways for each of us to help. Let us begin

in our homes. Each of you knows what he can do to help in his home. If any one does not, it is because he has never tried to find out. I am sure that each of us can find more ways of helping at home if we look for them. Let us each make a list of the helpful things we are going to do, and then remember to do them in a happy way.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Maryton

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; bring an offering and come into His courts." "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray." [1]

HYMN: "Come, Thou Almighty King"

LORD'S PRAYER (unison):

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 100 (Unison)

[1] From *Songs for Little People,* by Danielson and Conant. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

PRAYER:

Dear Father, we thank Thee for our homes. Teach us that we may serve Thee by gladly and unselfishly helping those with whom we live. Make us like Jesus, who was always ready to help every one. We pray in his name. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do in work or play,
To grow more loving ev'ry day." [1]

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

[1] Copyright, Oliver Ditson Company. Used by permission.

RESPONSE VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above." "O Jesus, I Have Promised."

SECOND SUNDAY: HELPING OUR COUNTRY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:
Did you ever wish that you had lived long ago, so that you might have been an explorer?

Perhaps you would like to have been with Columbus when he discovered America. Suppose I should tell you that America has not been discovered yet—not the real America; the real America is this great country of ours with all the people who live here helping to make it the best possible place to live. We can each help discover America by taking part in the things at home and at school which help to make our own community a better place to live. If we try hard, really try hard, it will be an exciting adventure. When we sing the first hymn, notice the words carefully, for they will tell us the kind of America we want to discover.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Hesperus

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; bring an offering and come into His courts." "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here today,

He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 33: 6–15
PRAYER:

Almighty and Everlasting God, we thank Thee for our great country. We pray Thee to guide and direct it that it may not become proud and selfish. May each of us serve it by willingly and cheerfully helping in all the ways that we can, at home, at school, and in our community. We pray in the name of Jesus, our leader and example. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do in work or play,
To grow more loving ev'ry day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"O God, Beneath Thy Guiding Hand." "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life."

THIRD SUNDAY: HELPING IN CHURCH

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Once, long ago, in a far-away country, there lived a little boy named Samuel. He loved his father and mother very much, and they loved him. Most of all they wanted him to grow up to know, and love, and serve God. So they took him to their church to live. That seems strange to us because no one lives in our church; but when Samuel was a little boy, the minister (who was called the priest) lived in the church. So Samuel went to live with his priest, whose name was Eli, to help him take care of God's house. Samuel's father and mother came to see him whenever they could. Each year his mother brought him a coat which she had made for him. Samuel missed his parents, but he was glad to be in God's house, for there he heard God speak to him.

These days boys and girls do not live in churches, but we can help, by coming to

church and to church school, by bringing our offerings, by keeping the building and lawn clean and beautiful, and by being reverent whenever we are here. As we learn to help, and as we grow to love our church, I am sure that we, too, shall hear God speak to us.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Canonbury

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; bring an offering and come into His courts." "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "O Word of God Incarnate"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: I Samuel 3: 1–10

PRAYER XVIII (Sung in unison):

"Jesus, with Thy Church abide,
Be her Saviour, Lord, and Guide,

While on earth her faith is tried:
We beseech thee, hear us.

"May she guide the poor and blind,
Seek the lost until she find,
And the broken-hearted bind:
We beseech thee, hear us.

"Save her love from growing cold,
Make her watchmen strong and bold,
Fence her round, thy peaceful fold:
We beseech thee, hear us.

"May her lamp of truth be bright,
Bid her bear aloft its light,
Bring all nations clearer sight:
We beseech thee, hear us."

(*Or* the following prayer with the Response for the month:)

O God, we thank Thee for Thy great church. We ask Thee to strengthen and direct it, that it may teach only that which is true. Lead us and all people to it, and to Thee. May we, like the child Samuel, serve Thee here. May we hear Thee speaking to us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord." "The Church's One foundation."

FOURTH SUNDAY: HELPING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

If ever a little girl wanted to do something, that little girl was Catarina; and since she only wanted to go to Sunday school, you may be surprised that she was not allowed to go, especially as she was perfectly well, the weather was clear and sunshiny, and the Sunday school was being held only a very little distance away. Right out under the shadow of a great palm tree. Catarina could see the boys and girls gathering, she could see the teacher hanging the picture scroll against the tree trunk.

"Oh, *madre mía,*" she begged, "I pray thee let me go just for a little while. See, I have been twice already, and it has never hurt me; let me go to-day!"

But the truth of the matter was that Catarina's mother hated Sunday schools. "No, no, Catarina, it is not safe to go. Something in my

bones tells me those stories will upset our family. So run away, child. Thou art in the way when there is cooking."

So two big tears dripped sadly from Catarina's eyes as she went out into the sunshine, where her father was sitting, lazily sunning his toes, and blinking his eyes open and shut, open and shut. And the first thing she knew Catarina was telling him how heartbroken she was, and he was saying: "Come now, am I not thy father? Then run along and listen to the stories, little one. Yes, go *ten* times, until thou hast a new story for every one of thy ten fingers."

So Catarina lost not a moment in skipping over to the crowd of boys and girls under the palm tree, where she listened with all her ears. Catarina's mother did not like it, but her father said cheerfully: "Oh, well, she wants to, so let her go!"

So Sunday after Sunday Catarina went until she had been nine times. It was exactly as if she had a Bible right at the tips of her nine fingers, for she named a new finger every Sunday, and now only the tenth finger was empty, waiting —waiting for the next story. But, oh, dear me,

there came a sad Thursday when her family moved to a distant village, which looked exactly like the old one, only—can you guess? *There was no Sunday school.*

Catarina asked all her little new neighbors, but not a single child in all that town had ever heard of such a thing. So Catarina told them what it was: how there had to be a teacher, and this teacher would hang a picture against a tree trunk, and tell a story about the picture. "I that speak unto you know *nine* of these stories myself!" Catarina said proudly. "See—nine." And she held up her two hands and wiggled every one of her fingers except the tenth.

"Then tell *us* the stories," begged the little new neighbors, "oh, do tell us! Let's have this thing called a Sunday school—right away, let's begin."

So they sat down under a palm tree and Catarina hung a piece of paper on the tree. "This is the Sunday-school picture," she said; "we'll just have to *pretend,* of course." Indeed, it took quite a little pretending when there wasn't a single drawing on that entire piece of paper. But Catarina laid her finger on a certain spot and said: "Now, here's where the

hillside ought to be. And all over the hillside you must make believe that there are sheep, huddled together, sound asleep. Shepherds are sitting here and it's night. It's ever and ever so dark, until suddenly up in this corner of the picture there is a big light, right here in the sky, and now what do you suppose made that light?"

Not a single little Filipino knew, so Catarina whispered: "Why, it was *angels,* oh, a whole lot of angels, and they came down to tell the shepherds that the Lord Jesus was born."

"Who is this Lord Jesus?" a little girl asked, so Catarina explained. And *that* was her first story!

"We all like finger stories," the children cried. "Tell us another."

So Catarina told story after story—the very ones you like best yourself—about three Wise Men who came over the desert on camels with presents for the little Lord Jesus; about how the Lord Jesus fed five thousand people from what was in the lunch-basket of one surprised little boy; about how the Lord Jesus healed the sick at sunset time—and so through all her nine fingers, a story for each. There came a

time when she had told them so often that almost any little Filipino child could tell which story belonged on which finger! The first they called her Angel Finger, the next her Wise Men Finger, the next her Lunch-Basket Finger, the next her Sick Finger, etc., nine of them. But always there was Catarina's empty little tenth finger that had no story at all!

Then one day our missionaries came to that town, and no sooner had Mrs. Missionary started telling the Bible stories to the women and children than a certain little boy named Alfonso cried: "Oh, that's Catarina's sixth finger, señora!" Of course Mrs. Missionary could not imagine what he was talking about, so she started to tell another story, when a small excited girl called out: "Señora, señora, we know how it ends, for it's Catarina's fourth finger."

So *then* Mrs. Missionary stopped and asked: "Who is Catarina? And what about her fingers?"

Whereupon Catarina came shyly forward and holding up her hands said: "I have nine Bible fingers, señora, but alas, my tenth finger is empty."

Yet when Mrs. Missionary heard all that Catarina had done in that town she saw that Catarina's tenth finger had been a Bible story all by itself, for perhaps you will remember that just before the Lord Jesus went back to Heaven He said to His friends: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." And Mrs. Missionary thought that Catarina had obeyed this command about as well as any little girl could do, for the moment she moved into the new village hadn't she begun spreading the story of Jesus? Indeed, it makes me wonder whether you and I are remembering to use our fingers for the Lord Jesus, too![1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Savoy Chapel

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; bring an offering and come into His courts." "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

[1] "Minus One!" from *Next-Door Neighbors,* by Margaret T. Applegarth, Fleming H. Revell Company, publishers. Used by permission of author.

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "For All Thy Care We Bless Thee"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 96

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray
For thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."
"Fling Out the Banner, Let it Float."

CHAPTER FOUR

NOVEMBER: THANKSGIVING

FIRST SUNDAY: THANKING GOD FOR THE GOOD GIFTS OF LIFE

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Scripture: Luke 2:8–19

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

When some one gives us something or does something for us, we say "Thank you." At least, that is what we mean to do; but sometimes we forget. Then, too, we are so used to having things done for us or given to us that we begin to take them for granted. When we do not say "Thank you," we are careless and selfish. Most often of all, I am afraid, we forget to say "Thank you" to the Heavenly Father. The Sundays of this month are going to be our special "Thank you" days.

Of course there is a special reason why we

should choose this month as our "Thank you" month. Like the Pilgrims, we want to thank the Heavenly Father for food, for shelter, for clothes, for our families and our friends, because it is He that gives them all to us. Our Scripture Lesson for to-day tells of some people who lived many, many years before the Pilgrims, and who, like them, had a special Thanksgiving Feast to thank the Heavenly Father for His good gifts to them.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Wentworth

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and bless his name."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison): See note on page 26.

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.[1]

HYMN: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Deut. 26: 1–11
PRAYER:

Our Father, God, we ask Thee to forgive us for the times we have forgotten to thank Thee for all the good gifts Thou hast given us. We do thank Thee for food, for clothes, for our homes, and for those who love us. Help us to show our thanks by loving all Thy children and by sharing with them the gifts we have received from Thee. Amen.

RESPONSE X (Sung in unison):

"God, our Father, hear us,
Keep us safe all day,
Let us grow like Jesus,
Lead us in His Way.

[1] From *Songs for Little People,* by Danielson and Conant. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

"Make us good and gentle,
Kind and loving too,
Pleasing God in all things
That we say or do.

"All that makes us happy
Comes from God above:
So we thank Thee, Father,
For Thy care and love." [1]

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "My God, I Thank Thee"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

[1] Words used by permission of Miss Caroline L. Fiedler. From *Prayers for Children,* Morehouse Publishing Company.

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,

Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"For the Beauty of the Earth." "This Is My Father's World."

SECOND SUNDAY: THANKING GOD BY SHARING HIS GIFTS WITH OTHERS

NOTE TO LEADER: One of the most effective ways of thanksgiving is sharing. Simply to tell the children to share their blessings with others, is not sufficiently definite. Plan to take gifts of food (or money) to poor families in the community. If there are no needy families, your gifts will be distributed by the charity organizations of your neighboring town or city. If at all practical, let the children be responsible for the actual distribution of the gifts. In order that the sharing may have a larger aspect, give the Thanksgiving offering as a part of the school's contribution to missions. Be sure that every child knows of these Thanksgiving plans. It would be well to have the teachers discuss the purpose of both offerings in their respective classes.

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

One of the best ways to show the Heavenly Father that we truly thank Him, is by sharing the good gifts He has given us with others. I don't believe any one of us can enjoy his Thanksgiving dinner unless he has helped give some hungry child a good dinner, too. So next Sunday we will each bring something. [*Name the desired articles.*] They will be given to ———. And while we are sharing with those near home, let us not forget the other children far away. Next Sunday the offering will go as a part of our gift to them.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea
CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and bless His name."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matt. 25: 31–45.

PRAYER:

Our Father, God, who hast blessed us so richly with all the good things of life, grant that, in our joy, we may not forget those who are in need. May we gladly share with them. We ask it in the name of Jesus, who went about doing good. Amen.

RESPONSE X (Sung in unison):

"God, our Father, hear us,
Keep us safe all day,

Let us grow like Jesus,
Lead us in His Way.

"Make us good and gentle,
Kind and loving too,
Pleasing God in all things
That we say or do.

"All that makes us happy
Comes from God above:
So we thank Thee, Father,
For Thy care and love."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "When Thy Heart with Joy O'erflowing"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea,"
"Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life."

THIRD SUNDAY: THANKSGIVING

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Let the Juniors (children 9–12) act out the story of the Pilgrims' Thanksgiving. *Or* let one of the children (in costume) tell the story of the Pilgrims' Thanksgiving. It will be more interesting if told in the first person.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Duke Street
CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise; be thankful unto Him and Bless His name."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.
"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "O God, Beneath Thy Guiding Hand"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 95: 1–7a (Unison)

PRAYER:

Thou Giver of all gifts, bless our gifts that we are about to bring Thee. May those for children near by and those for children far

away all take to them the message of our love and Thine. We pray in the name of Jesus, who came to tell us of Thy love. Amen.

RESPONSE X (Sung in unison):

"God, our Father, hear us,
Keep us safe all day,
Let us grow like Jesus,
Lead us in His Way.

"Make us good and gentle,
Kind and loving too,
Pleasing God in all things
That we say or do.

"All that makes us happy
Comes from God above:
So we thank Thee, Father,
For Thy care and love."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.) Each one brings

forward his special Thanksgiving gift and places it on a table.

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee." "When Thy Heart with Joy O'erflowing."

FOURTH SUNDAY: A LITTLE BROWN CHILD'S THANKSGIVING

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Dukhi knew a nice little game to play when you felt *sort of* hungry, the way you feel in India most of the time when your father earns only four cents a day. This is the game: you close your eyes and pretend that mother lays a big green leaf in your hands. And on the big green leaf you pretend that she piles a mound of the nicest rice you ever smelled, and over the rice she pours the hottest curry—you lick your lips happily; then you make believe to roll the rice into a neat little ball with your two first fingers, and pop it into your mouth. Right here you have to swallow quickly, pretending hard that you are really swallowing something. And if you are only *sort of* hungry, then this game is not so bad. . . .

But—and here we all sigh—poor Dukhi found that you simply can't play this beautiful make-believe game when you're *hungry inside out.* When the back of your poor empty stomach knocks against the front of it, and you feel limp and heavy all over, and your head gets dizzy when you stand up. That's what happens when there hasn't been food for one—two—three—four whole days. Lots of little girls in India knew how it felt. And so did Dukhi.

Not even a kernel of rice had she swallowed in all those days. Not a drop of water. So it was positively no good pretending anything. Thoughts just rattled around in her dizzy little head, and she curled up in a corner of the hut moaning dismally. Never did her name fit her better, for Dukhi means "One in Pain." Indeed her name would have fitted the entire village, for every one was hungry, and there was no food. . . .

Even strong grown-up persons feel weak and feeble without food, yet Dukhi's father bravely went to work for the missionary to help build a new wall about the mission school. This would help him earn money to buy food. . . .

Dukhi had not been going to the mission very long, but already she loved the bright songs and cheerful Sunday School scrolls, and even while she lay on the floor, hungry inside out, she was astonished to find herself turning into a picture. One of those paper pictures that the teacher unrolls and hangs on the mud wall and points to as she tells the new Jesus story.

Dukhi was the little girl who sat cross-legged in the front row of the picture called

"The Feeding of the Five Thousand." There she was in her bright green sari with lots of tinkling glass bracelets on her arms. The little boy's lunch-basket was being passed round and round among all those thousand people, and she was afraid there wouldn't be even a crumb left by the time it got to her. But there was. More than enough. She gobbled away for dear life at first, and while she was chewing more quietly a little later she glanced up and found the Lord Jesus looking at her in the most friendly fashion. "Is it good?" he asked, and she said: "Um-m-m! Ever so good, thank you."

"No, my dear," He answered, "thank the little boy who loaned us his luncheon." After which Dukhi found herself wandering all over that lovely green hillside, but she never could spy the little Lunch-Basket Boy.

"Oh, dear!" she cried. "I wanted to thank that little boy so badly. Everything tasted so good. I was so dreadfully hungry."

"What little boy do you want to thank?" a brand-new voice broke in.

Dukhi opened her eyes and found herself in a big white room with row after row of beds set

along the walls. It was all very amazing—then the new voice repeated: "What little boy? And why do you want to thank him?"

"Why, the little boy who fed me when I was so hungry a minute ago."

"*A minute ago!*" exclaimed a second voice overhead. "She evidently does not know how long she's been sick, or that she's in the hospital."

"But how curious she should mention the little boy!" whispered the other voice. "How *could* she know about him? We haven't once mentioned about him in the wards, and she's been delirious anyhow."

Dukhi looked up and saw that the whispering voices belonged to two nurses. "If you know that little boy, I've just got to thank him," she said, "for Jesus told me to. This wasn't a pretend-game, for you see I was really hungry, and now I'm not. I'm fed, so it must have really happened just as in the Sunday School picture. Perhaps you don't know I'm the little girl in the front row, and the reason I'm not hungry is because I ate part of that little boy's luncheon."

One nurse sat down beside her bed, and

smiled: "Oh, my dear! my dear! it must have been a dream, but the nice part of it is that there is such a little boy—only he lives over in America. But when he heard about our dreadful famine here in India, he gave up part of his luncheon every day to save money for rice for you. The money came to us ten days ago with the loveliest letter from his mother. So you see it's all true, and little by little we've been giving you nourishing food—all you could eat. So the minute you feel better you can tell me what to say and I'll write him how he saved your life."

So by and by the nurse wrote Dukhi's thank-you letter to that junior boy over in America, and oh, how I wish I had been in his shoes and done such a wonderful thing for Dukhi—in time! For it seems to me that if Jesus put it into the heart of Dukhi to thank this modern Lunch-Basket Boy, he must also be trying to put it into your heart and mine to share with other Dukhis over in India who are still so hungry this very minute. For how can I selfishly pray, "Give me this day *my* daily bread," when I know that six brown pennies will feed some little Hindu girl for one whole day? And

maybe, if I cared enough, I could make it seven times six cents, and so feed her for the entire week! I'm sure I could—couldn't you? [1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Salve Domine

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise; be thankful unto Him and bless His name."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;

[1] "Hungry Inside Out," from *Friday's Footprints*, by Margaret T. Applegarth. Copyright, The Judson Press. Used by permission of author and copyright owner.

Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Light of the World, We Hail Thee"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 100 (Unison)
PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "When Thy Heart with Joy O'erflowing"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS

"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator." "Christ for the World We Sing."

CHAPTER FIVE

DECEMBER. GOOD-WILL

FIRST SUNDAY: GOOD-WILL IN OUR HOMES

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Scripture: Psalm 24

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Even the smallest of us knows that the best day of the year comes this month. Christmas is the best day of the year because it is Jesus' birthday. Did you ever stop to think why Jesus' birthday should make you and me so happy? I think it is because Jesus is the children's best friend. One day, long ago when Jesus was here on earth, some men who were with him tried to send the children away so they wouldn't bother Jesus. But Jesus called

the children to him and took them in his arms. Everywhere he went the children came to him, because they knew he was their friend.

Even though Jesus is no longer here where we can see him, he is still our friend. Whenever we think of that and remember the beautiful Christmas story we are so happy that it seems as though we just must make every one else happy too. How can we help people to be happy? Jesus showed us the way: it is by having only good and kind thoughts and by doing only good and kind deeds. There is one word that means all those things. It is the word "good-will." When we have good-will toward others we are friends of Jesus.

Surely there is no better place always to have good-will than in our homes. Can each of us remember to do only good and kind deeds and have only good and kind thoughts at home with our families? If we do, we shall be happier than ever that Chritsmas is coming.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Holy Night (Stille Nacht)
CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men."

RESPONSE XII (Sung in unison):

"O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord."

HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 9:6–7

PRAYER:

O God, our Father, who didst send Jesus to this earth to be the friend of all children, we thank Thee that his birthday is so near. Help us to make ready our hearts and the hearts of others by thinking and doing only that which is good and kind. We pray in his name. Amen.

RESPONSE XIII (Sung in unison):

"O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us to-day,
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!"

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XIV (Sung in unison):

As wise men brought their gifts to him,
As shepherds knelt in awe;
So we bring gifts, we give ourselves
To Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
Whom heaven and earth adore.

HYMN: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

No alternative hymns are suggested for the

month of December. Use other Christmas hymns, if any changes are made.

SECOND SUNDAY: GOOD-WILL IN OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Of course you have found during the week that has just gone, that if you have good-will toward those in your home, you have good-will toward every one you meet. Let us think for a minute of our school. Can you have only good and kind thoughts about your teachers and do only good and kind things for them? Why not try? Can you be friends with all the other children; never say unkind things behind any one's back, never play mean tricks on any one, and never be jealous of any one in your heart? Why not try?

Then there are ever so many other people that we want to include in our good-will thoughts and deeds. One of the special things

we are going to do here in our church school is to share our Christmas happiness. Next Sunday there will be a Christmas tree here—a Christmas tree to which we will bring gifts instead of taking them away. Each of you is to bring some gift to put on the tree. Wrap it up just as attractively as you can, and on the tag write whether your gift is for a boy or girl, and the age of the boy or girl. One very good way is to choose something that you yourself would like to have. Then you will be sure whether it is for a boy or girl, and how old that boy or girl should be. These gifts will be taken to ——— so that others may have a Christmas tree. I think that if they understand why we wanted to give these gifts, they will have good-will in their hearts too.[1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Holy Night (Stille Nacht)
CALL TO WORSHIP:

[1] NOTE TO LEADER: If you have a birthday box, plan to have all the Christmas offerings placed in it, because Christmas is Jesus' birthday. Tell the children about it beforehand. All the older people of the church should be especially invited to attend the Christmas tree service. Ask them to bring gifts, too.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men."

RESPONSE XII (Sung in unison):

"O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord."

HYMN: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 1: 28–33, 46–55

PRAYER:

Our Father in Heaven, as the Christmas time draws near, make our hearts ready to receive the Christ-Child, that we may learn of him how Thou wouldst have us live. May we think not only of ourselves, but be quick to share our joys with others. Fill us with good-will for all Thy children. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE XIII (Sung in unison):

"O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;

Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!"

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XIV (Sung in unison):

As wise men brought their gifts to him,
As shepherds knelt in awe;
So we bring gifts, we give ourselves
To Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
Whom heaven and earth adore.

HYMN: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,

Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY: CHRISTMAS

NOTE TO LEADER: If it seems wise, use a special program instead of the worship service. This should be done only in case the special service has real worship value. Programs that merely entertain do not foster the true spirit of Christmas.

Be sure that some one is near the tree to help the children place their gifts. The tree should be very simply decorated. If any artificial trimming is used, the tinsel strips, sometimes called "rain," are best.

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL (May be omitted)

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

If some presentation is desired, use the story "The Wind and Christmas Gifts." (See Appendix.)

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Holy Night (Stille Nacht)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men."

RESPONSE XII (Sung in unison):

"O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord."

HYMN: "It came upon the Midnight Clear"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2:7–19

PRAYER:

Almighty God, our Father, and Father of the Christ-Child, bless these gifts which we bring to him on his birthday. Use them and us to spread the joy of his birth to all people throughout the whole wide world. In his name we pray. Amen.

RESPONSE XIII (Sung in unison):

"O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us to-day.

We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!"

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

The children bring their gifts to the tree quietly, and in order. While the gifts are being brought, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" is sung softly. When all have returned to their seats, the youngest child passes the Birthday Box.

Response XIV (Sung in unison):

As wise men brought their gifts to him,
As shepherds knelt in awe;
So we bring gifts, we give ourselves
To Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
Whom heaven and earth adore.

SONG BY CHILDREN: "Away in a Manger"

HYMN: "Holy Night, Silent Night"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

FOURTH SUNDAY: "ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD-WILL TOWARD MEN"

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

After the shepherds had come to worship the Christ-Child, three Wise Men, who had seen the star, came riding to Bethlehem on their camels. They, too, came to the place where the Christ-Child was. They knelt before him and offered their precious gifts.

Now ever since the Wise Men brought those first gifts, every one who has learned about Jesus and about God, the Father, has brought gifts. That is why we have our offering, so that

we can bring our gifts. These gifts are used to send men and women (called missionaries) to tell others who do not know Jesus and God, that Jesus is the friend of all children everywhere, and that God is the loving Heavenly Father of all. Some of these missionaries are ministers, some are teachers, some are nurses, some are doctors. They go to these far-away places because their hearts are filled with good-will, because they are so happy about the Christ-Child that they just have to tell others about him.

We cannot all be missionaries, but we can all help the missionaries by bringing them our gifts to take to the lands to which they are going. When we remember that, we shall want to make our gifts just as fine as we can. The Wise Men brought precious gifts to the Christ-Child. Probably they would have enjoyed using their gifts for themselves, but they wanted, even more, to bring them to Jesus. And so we, too, want to bring the best that we have for Jesus.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Holy Night (Stille Nacht)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men."

RESPONSE XII (Sung in unison):

"O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord."

HYMN: "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matt. 2: 1–12

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,

Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XIV (Sung in unison):

As wise men brought their gifts to him,
As shepherds knelt in awe;
So we bring gifts, we give ourselves
To Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
Whom heaven and earth adore.

HYMN: "As with Gladness Men of Old"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

CHAPTER SIX

JANUARY: JOYFULNESS

FIRST SUNDAY: JOY BECAUSE OF THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "Father, Hear the Prayer We Offer"

Scripture: Psalm 19

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Many, many years ago, before Jesus was born, there was no Christmas. We read in our Bible about how God made the world and all the people; how He cared for them and gave them all the good gifts of life. He tried very hard to make people see that He was always taking care of them and loving them. But the people did not understand. Some of them thought that God was a very stern person who must be obeyed, and that some terrible punish-

ment would come to those who did not keep his laws. Other people thought that everything in the world about them was trying to hurt them, and so they brought gifts to the thing they most feared. In this way they hoped to make that thing so pleased with them that it would forget to hurt them. None of these people lived happily together. So God, Who had been loving them all the time, sent Jesus to tell them of the loving Heavenly Father, and to show them how to live happily together. So, you see, Jesus was God's first Christmas present to the world.

We have all had such a happy Christmas. The presents we have received have made us happy, so happy that we could hardly wait to tell our friends about them. But perhaps we almost forgot about the best gift of all, about Jesus. When we stop to think about it, we know that even the good time we have had at Christmas could not make us happy if we did not know that we live in a world cared for by a loving Heavenly Father. That makes us want to tell our friends about the Christmas present God gave us. "Every one knows about Jesus," you say. Perhaps the people you see every day

do, but they do not all have Jesus as their friend, I am sure. Besides, there are millions and millions of men and women and boys and girls far away who have never heard of Jesus, nor of the loving Heavenly Father Jesus came to tell us about. I think the best way we can say "Thank you" to God for His wonderful Christmas present is by doing our best to help all His children to learn about Him and love Him. Then the joy of Christmas will last the whole year through.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Galilee

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless His name, show forth His salvation from day to day."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day thy children meet
In thy house, with willing feet;
Unto thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise." [1]

[1] From *A Child's Garden of Song,* by E. L. Thomas and E. H. Sneath. Copyright, The Century Co.

HYMN: "Joy to the World, The Lord Is Come"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 24 (Unison)

PRAYER:

O God, our Father, we thank Thee for the gift of Jesus. We thank Thee for the message of peace and good-will that the angels sang at his birth. Help us to take the joy of the Christmas season with us into the New Year. Help us to share it with others. Grant that we may daily grow more like the Christ-Child, so that we may be worthy to be called Thy children. Amen.

RESPONSE XVI (Sung in unison):

"Be thou with us every day
In our work and in our play,
When we sing and when we pray—
Hear us, O our Father!

"Make us brave, without a fear;
Make us strong and full of cheer,
Sure that thou art always near
And wilt hear us, Father."[1]

[1] From *A Child's Garden of Song,* by Thomas and Sneath. Copyright, The Century Co.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Light of the World, We Hail Thee."
"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun."

SECOND SUNDAY: JOY FOR THE WORK WE CAN DO

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

The unhappiest people in the world are those who have no work to do. Jesus was a very busy person. When he was small, he ran errands for his mother; he helped her care for the younger children. He was gentle, kind, and loving. When he grew a little older, he began to help his father in the carpenter shop. All these years he had been learning what God expects of those who work for Him. When it was time for Jesus to leave his home, he was ready to do the greatest work any one has ever done for the Heavenly Father. The wonderful thing about it all is that Jesus has told us that if we believe in him, we shall be able to work as he did, always serving the Father. If we are to do this, we must begin now, however small

we are, joyfully doing the work God gives us to do.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Maryton

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; show forth His salvation from day to day."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Nehemiah 2: 2–18; 4: 6.

PRAYER:

O Lord, by the help of Thy Holy Spirit, may we early seek out the work Thou wouldst have us do. And when we have found it, give us the patience and courage to do it faithfully and

well, that we may be true disciples of Thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

RESPONSE XVI (Sung in unison):

"Be Thou with us every day
In our work and in our play,
When we sing and when we pray—
Hear us, O our Father!

"Make us brave, without a fear;
Make us strong and full of cheer,
Sure that Thou art always near
And wilt hear us, Father."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS
"O Day of Rest and Gladness." "Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult."

THIRD SUNDAY: JOY BECAUSE OF THE FATHER'S CARE

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:
Have the Primary children act the story of the Baby Moses.

Baby Moses

Once upon a time, long, long ago, in a far-away country, there lived a wicked King who had ordered that all poor people's boy babies

should be killed. Now there was a new little boy baby in one of those poor families. Of course his mother and father and sister Miriam loved him very much. Somehow they must keep the wicked King's soldiers from taking their baby away from them. While the baby was still tiny they kept him hidden in their house. Of course they never told any of their friends about him. They were always afraid that the soldiers might find him.

As he grew older, they became even more afraid. Finally, one day, the mother knew it wasn't safe to keep the baby home any longer. So she and Miriam made a little basket out of dry grass. They lined it with a kind of mud. When the mud dried, the basket was a real little boat, for it could float and no water could get in. Then they put some soft cloths in the bottom and laid the baby on them, ever so carefully. They hurried down to the edge of the river and hid the baby in his basket-boat amid the tall grass. The mother went home, but Miriam stayed near by. Soon the daughter of the wicked King and her maids came down to the river to bathe. Can't you imagine how breathlessly Miriam waited? Yes, they have

seen the basket and the Princess has sent one of her maids to get it. The maid returns. They peep inside. You and I know what they found. There was the baby, smiling up at them.

"What a beautiful baby!" said the Princess. "If only I had a nurse to care for him, I would keep him." Miriam couldn't wait any longer. She ran to the Princess and said: "Shall I find some one to take care of the baby for you?" The Princess nodded her head, and away Miriam ran, as fast as she could go.

I am sure you can guess who the nurse was. Yes, it was the baby's very own mother. The Princess gave her the baby in the basket-boat, and said: "Take care of him for me, please. I am going to name him Moses."

So Miriam, the mother, and the baby went home. The baby smiled and cooed. Miriam and the mother and father were so happy and thankful because God had taken care of their baby.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Dominus Regit Me

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto

the Lord all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; show forth His salvation from day to day."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "For All Thy Care We Bless Thee"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 23 (Unison)

PRAYER:

We thank Thee, our Father, for Thy loving care. As Thou didst watch over the baby Moses long ago, Thou art watching over each of us to-day. Forgive us when we have been forgetful of Thy love. Forgive us when we have not listened to Thy voice telling us what we should do. Help us to feel Thee near us, as long as we live. Help us to love Thee because Thou art our Heavenly Father. Amen.

RESPONSE XVI (Sung in unison):

"Be Thou with us every day
In our work and in our play,

When we sing and when we pray—
Hear us, O our Father!

"Make us brave, without a fear;
Make us strong and full of cheer,
Sure that Thou art always near
And wilt hear us, Father."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,

Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator." "O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea."

FOURTH SUNDAY: JOY BECAUSE WE CAN SHARE OUR JOY WITH ALL CHILDREN

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

"Oh, it's a really, truly baby, Mother," cried Dolly and Jim both at once as they ran into the house with the Chinese servant who was carrying a basket in both arms.

"It's a real baby in a basket. Mother, come and see," they called.

Mother came quickly, looked at the children and at the basket, and said: "A baby! Where?"

The servant put the basket down in the front

room before the fireplace and started to push the straw and old clothes away.

"Here, lady, here—a girl child just newborn, a girl child whose father and mother have put her at our gate for us to find and keep," the servant said. And then a wee cry came from the basket and Lin Ku, the servant, uncovered a very red-faced, new baby, a little Chinese girl baby. An old coat was wrapped about her, and the straw was piled around to keep her warm, but even so, she looked cold and uncomfortable.

Mother took the baby in her arms, and Jim and Dolly pushed close to see.

"Oh, it's mad as anything!" Jim said when he saw the small face all screwed up to cry.

"It's hungry, I think. Don't you, Mumsie?" asked Dolly. You see Dolly was nearly eight years old, and she knew more about babies than Jim, who was only five.

"Get a blanket, please, Lin Ku," Mother said, "and ask Missey to come here."

Missey was Jim's Chinese nurse, the kindest, sweetest nurse any little boy ever had. She came running when she heard about the baby,

and when she saw it, she said, "Ai yah, poor little girl baby! Poor, poor mother!"

"Why do you say 'poor mother,' Missey?" Jim asked.

"Poor mother of the little baby, I mean. See, the mother loved the wee one, but she was so poor she could not keep it. She did not want to throw it away like some Chinese mothers have to do because they have not money enough to keep their babies, so she left it here on our door-step for us to bring it in and feed it."

The baby cried very loudly now, a funny little wow-wow cry like brand-new babies make, and Mother wrapped the warm blanket about it and patted it gently.

"You keep the baby, Lady Mother?" Missey asked. Before Mother could answer, Dolly said, "Of course we shall keep it. Can't we, Mother?"

Mother patted the little baby some more before she answered; then she said, "Dolly, Mother and Daddy have two children already, and we haven't very much money, you know. It takes a lot of money to give a little baby clothes and food and to send it to school when it grows up. Daddy and Mother aren't rich.

I'm afraid we can't keep the baby, but we'll see what Father says. See! The baby is going asleep. Sh! we must be very still."

Dolly looked very unhappy. She wanted that baby for her very own. She put her head against Missey's shoulder and said, "I don't see why that lady put her baby at our gate if we can't keep it." Jim came over to Missey, too, and said, "Couldn't we find the baby's mother, Missey?"

Mother said, "I'll take the tiny baby upstairs and give it some warm milk and put it to bed." So mother went quietly upstairs and Missey said to the children, "Let's go out and look for the baby's mother. She might come to the gate to see if we took the baby in. Come on! Hats on, coats on, ten toes in two rubbers, five fingers in each mitten. There! come now, it's warm in the sunshine. Let's hunt the mother."

This was a lovely idea and it cheered Dolly and Jim very much. If their mother could not keep the new baby, the only thing to do was to find its own mother and make her take the baby back again.

Outside the gate of their house a little stone

road went winding east on the Hill of Scissors. There were no mothers on that road, so they went on over the Hill to the Street of Poor Houses. Dolly was in a great hurry to find the mother so she ran ahead, but Jim held Missey's hand and walked more slowly.

Dolly went right into the first house she came to on the Street of Poor Houses, a poor, little mud house with a mud floor and no chairs or tables. There were two beds and three boxes, and that was all the furniture for all the people who lived in that house. The Chinese woman of the house said, "Well, what business, child? Have you lost your shoe?" and she laughed at Dolly's serious face.

"I have not lost my shoe, thank you, but have you lost a baby in a basket? We found a little new baby without any clothes on in a basket at our gate, and we have to find its mother because somebody has to be its mother and—"

"How the child talks!" said the woman. "But come in and sit down. Are you alone? And what is this about the baby you found?" asked the woman.

"No, I'm not alone. My nurse is coming

with my brother. Please, could you tell me if you lost a baby in a basket?"

By this time Missey and Jim had come and all the women and children of the Street of Poor Houses were gathered around to look at the American children and hear them talk. Chinese children wear cloth shoes, so Jim's and Dolly's leather shoes looked funny to the Chinese women. Chinese buttons are made of cloth, so the women wanted to feel the big coat buttons Dolly had. Chinese children all have black hair, so Jim's gold hair seemed very strange to them. They crowded around and touched Jim's hair and Dolly's coat and shoes. They did not listen very hard when Dolly explained again about the baby. "It's the cutest little baby," she said, "and it hasn't any mother, and I know it needs one. My mother wants to take care of it, but she hasn't very much money either, and I don't know what to do. I thought if I could find the real mother and talk to her I could think of something to do."

One Chinese woman asked Dolly why her Father and Mother came to China. Dolly said, "They want to make the Chinese people hap-

pier, I think. But please, aren't any of you the mother of the baby in the basket?"

Not one of the women was the mother, but they were all glad that Dolly had come to see them. "Nice child," they said. "She really wants to help us. Those people who love Jesus love the very poorest of us, too."

But Dolly wasn't glad about anything. She and Jim and Missey had to go home now. It was nearly dark along the road. The lights from the evening fires in the houses shone out from the open doors. The men who sell vegetables all day were coming home with their baskets empty and singing loud songs. But there was no mother for the little baby. Dolly and Jim walked along very quietly and were sad in their hearts.

When they reached home their mother met them at the door. "The little baby is fast asleep in Jim's bed upstairs, and Daddy is home from school," Mother said.

"Couldn't we possibly keep the little baby, Mother? We went a long way and hunted and hunted, but we couldn't find its real mother or any mother who wanted it," Dolly said.

"Come in by the fire, dear, Daddy and I want to talk to you," Mother answered.

Daddy was sitting in a big chair and Jim climbed into his lap. Dolly stood beside him and looked into the fire. "Something very wonderful has happened," said Father. "Just before you came home, while Mother and I were talking about the new baby, the mailman came. 'Megua sing!' he called, which means 'American letters,' and Lin Ku brought the mail to me. There was a letter from Granny about Christmas in America, and a letter from Uncle Jim, and last of all a letter from our Board in America. In this letter was the news that some money, a whole lot of money, was on its way to be used to make people in China happier."

Dolly's eyes were wide open now. "And so—" she said, to make Daddy hurry.

"And so," Daddy said, "we are going to keep the wee baby and use some of this money to buy it food and clothes and send it to school when it grows up."

"I'm so glad," Dolly said. "Oh, I'm so glad that we can make our little baby happy! But it's quite a joke, Daddy," she said, "I think

I'm happier than the little baby could ever be."

"Wait and see!" said Daddy. "One little girl baby saved in China means more happiness than the people in America possibly dream of. It was a wonderful Christmas gift they sent! I wish I could tell them how wonderful!" [1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Waltham

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless His name; show forth His salvation from day to day."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 60: 1–3, 18–22.

[1] "Baby in a Basket," by Dorothy Rowe, from *China Picture Stories*. Copyright, The Missionary Education Movement. Used by permission.

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "Fling Out the Banner, Let It Float"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee.
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS

"Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens, Adore Him." "Heralds of Christ Who Bear the King's Commands."

CHAPTER SEVEN

FEBRUARY: COURAGE

FIRST SUNDAY: HAVING COURAGE TO STAND FOR THE RIGHT

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "Shepherd of Tender Youth"

Scripture: Psalm 37: 3–9

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

All of us admire a person who shows great courage. It thrills us to read about the heroes and heroines of the world. We, too, would like to be heroes and heroines. Surely that is what God expects us to be. And he expects us to begin now. Do you suppose we should be celebrating the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln this month if they had waited until they were grown-up men to be courageous?

One of the things a courageous person does

is always to stand for what is right. Usually we know what is right. Our parents, our teachers, our country's laws all try to help us know what we should do. Jesus came to earth so we could know how the Heavenly Father expects His children to live courageously together. God has put inside each of us a tiny voice that whispers to us what is right and what is wrong, what is brave and what is cowardly.

We have all these to help us, but they cannot make us do the right unless we, ourselves, are determined to do so. It is easy to stand for the right when every one else is doing the same; but it takes a thoroughly courageous person to stand for the right when others make fun of him, or when he knows he may get into difficulty. Are you a courageous person?

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Carter

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"O let the nations be glad, and sing for joy; for Thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth." "Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Jeremiah 26: 1–16

This is the story of a man who had the courage to do what God told him was right.

PRAYER:

Almighty God, who art our Father, and art interested in the life of each of us, we thank Thee for the stories of the great men and women of all the world. We thank Thee most of all for the life of Jesus. We, too, would be courageous. Help us to know what is right, and give us the strength and courage always to stand for it, to the end that we may be worthy to be called disciples of our Master, in whose name we pray. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;

Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Father, Hear the Prayer We Offer"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,

Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS
"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty."
"Dare to Be Brave, Dare to Be True."

SECOND SUNDAY: FACING TEMPTATIONS BRAVELY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Did you ever want very much to do something, and yet find that little voice inside you made you feel uncomfortable because it whispered that the thing you wanted to do was not the finest, truest thing you might do? One of the first stories we have about Jesus tells us how he was brave enough to obey that voice. It would have been easy for Jesus to be the kind of king that the people expected, the kind of leader that they wanted: one with great power, with great wealth, with great fame. But the voice inside told Jesus that if he be-

came that kind of leader, he would never be able to make people understand that God was their loving Heavenly Father, and that His children could never be happy until they learned to live together as one great, loving family. Jesus believed so much in God, and was so courageous, that he gave up his chance to be a great king. Instead, he chose to be God's real messenger.

I do not believe that Jesus would have had the courage to meet this temptation as he did, if he had not begun when he was still a very little boy at home, and in Joseph's carpenter shop, to be brave enough always to do the best thing, when something else, perhaps the second best, seemed much more inviting. Have you and I courage to do that, too, so that when we grow older, and greater temptations come, we shall have strength and courage to do the finest, truest thing?

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Carter

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O let the nations be glad, and sing for joy; for Thou shalt judge the people righteously

and govern the nations upon earth." "Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Come, Thou Almighty King"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 4: 1–14

PRAYER:

Give us courage, O God, to do that which we know to be right. We thank Thee for the story of Jesus' temptation. May we, too, be brave enough to become Thy real messengers. We ask it in his name. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;

All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above; and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Take My Life and Let It Be"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS

"At Thy Feet, Our God and Father."
"Yield Not to Temptation."

THIRD SUNDAY: HAVING COURAGE TO TRUST OURSELVES TO THE HEAVENLY FATHER'S CARE

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

We cannot be brave without God's help. Yet sometimes it takes real courage to believe that He will help us. Miss ———'s class is going to act for us the story of a man who had the courage to trust himself to God's care. (Let the Juniors, children from nine to twelve, act out the story of Daniel.)

Daniel was one of King Darius' many captives, but because of his strength and honesty he had become one of the king's favorites. The king even planned to put Daniel over all the princes and governors of the land. Of course the princes and governors were jealous. So they watched Daniel very carefully, hoping that they might catch him doing something wrong. Then they could tell King Darius, and Daniel would lose his place of favor. But even though they watched Daniel closely, they

could not find him doing anything wrong. Then they remembered Daniel's religion was different from theirs. Daniel worshiped God and prayed to Him, just as we do to-day. The princes and governors said to each other: "Now we have found a way to get rid of him."

They went to the king and pretended that because they honored him so greatly, they wanted him to sign a decree saying that any man who prayed to any one but the king for thirty days should be cast into a den of lions. Darius signed the decree, and promised that, whatever happened, it should be kept.

Then of course it was easy for the princes and governors. They knew that Daniel prayed to God three times every day. They watched, and as soon as they saw him praying, they ran to King Darius and told him about it.

King Darius was very unhappy, for he loved Daniel; but a king's word could not be broken. He tried to think of some way in which he could save Daniel, but the princes and governors kept reminding him of his promise. King Darius saw that there was nothing else to do, so he ordered Daniel to be

cast into the lion's den. King Darius could not sleep that night. He kept wondering whether Daniel's God would save him. Early in the morning, he hurried to the den. There were the lions, and there was Daniel, unharmed. So King Darius knew that Daniel had not been hurt because he believed in God and served Him.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O let the nations be glad, and sing for joy; for Thou shalt judge the people righteously and govern the nations upon earth." "Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 19 (Unison)

PRAYER:

We thank Thee, O God, for the men and women who have had the courage to trust themselves to Thy loving care. Grant that we, too, may know that Thou wilt never leave us, nor forsake us; that Thou art ever willing to give help and courage, however difficult our task may be. Give us the courage to trust ourselves to Thee, and serve Thee at all times. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the

Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS

"Lord, Thy Glory Fills the Heavens."
"How Gentle God's Commands."

FOURTH SUNDAY: THE COURAGE OF A FATHER IN A FAR-AWAY LAND

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

This is a true story of a little four-year-old girl in far-away India. Bhagirthi's[1] father had a grain shop on one of the busiest streets of the great, busy city of Bombay. Her mother had died when she was only a little baby, so her father loved very dearly this little girl who was the whole family.

Perhaps you don't know that in India girls are not thought by most people to have as bright minds as boys. They are expected, even in the homes of rich people, to do much hard work; and in the humbler, poorer families, they do little else than cook, draw water, sweep, and take care of the younger babies. If they go to school at all, it is only a short time, and they marry so young that they have to begin taking care of their own babies about the time that you are having your happiest days in school and are playing and going to parties.

There was only one thing a man like Bhagirthi's father could do for the little daughter he loved. That was to get her the richest husband possible and to save up lots of money so

[1] Buh-geer-ty.

that she could have a wonderful wedding procession and a wedding feast that would last for several days. Bhagirthi's father did not really know how he would ever be able to afford this, but he just tried with all his might.

Ever since her mother had died, little Bhagirthi had spent most of her days sitting by her father in his grain shop. She would watch him measure out the rice and the corn and the other grain and weigh them in the scales for the people who came to buy. While he worked, she would make him happy with her chatter and play. Grandmother took care of her at home some days, but usually Father wanted her with him.

Once a year came the great Feast of Lights, or "Divali" [1] as it was called. That was the exciting time of Bhagirthi's whole year. Then she loved to be dressed in her bright-colored silk coat and her funny little silk cap and to see the shop all lighted with hundreds of tiny oil lamps of many different colors. Every shop on the street had these lights, but none seemed to her so beautiful as her father's. These little lamps were kept burning all night long for a

[1] De-wah-lee.

week, and every night Bhagirthi, watching them until very late, would fall asleep in her father's arms.

There was one other time that Bhagirthi loved. Once a week, every seventh day, as she and her father sat in the door of the shop, a long line of very happy-looking girls went walking by, with two or three older women. They looked so happy and so clean, and they had such lovely dresses on that Bhagirthi liked to look at them. She did not know that this was Sunday or what Sunday meant. You see, in her country, people do not keep a weekly rest-day like our Sunday, so that Bhagirthi's father sold grain on Sunday just as he did on any other day.

As that line of girls passed, twice every Sunday going somewhere and twice every Sunday coming back, Bhagirthi's father found himself thinking. After a time he began to ask questions about them, and, little by little, he learned that they were Christian girls who lived in a boarding-school kept by an American Madam-Sahib[1] whose home was not far away. On Sundays their teachers,

[1] Muddum-sah-hib.

he found out, always took them to some sort of service in the morning—it was Sunday school—and then to another in the afternoon.

"How different they look from other Hindu girls!" thought Bhagirthi's father.

They wore, usually, bright pink or blue gingham suits—jackets and skirts—with soft white mull draped over the suits and over their heads. This drapery is called a *lugadi.* Their faces were happy and girlish-looking—not old and sad like the faces of other girls Bhagirthi's father knew.

"They chatter and laugh as they walk along!" he thought. "And they love their teachers."

At last he could not stand it any longer. He made up his mind. "I must give my daughter this kind of happiness—no matter how much trouble my relatives make for me. Let them do anything they like."

Perhaps you wonder why Bhagirthi's father's relatives would want to do or say anything against her going to school; but you see this was India and in India a girl must be married. It was not the custom for girls to go to school. And when anything is not the cus-

tom, you know people always object to it. So that is why Bhagirthi's father knew there would be a great deal of talk and a great deal of scolding. All the aunts and uncles and cousins would make a great noise because he wanted to send his daughter to a school.

Tiny Bhagirthi, of course, could not know what her father was thinking about, but she was old enough to smile with pleasure when those girls in their pretty pink and blue dresses went by the shop.

As soon as he made up his mind, Bhagirthi's father began right away asking questions, for he wanted to find out about the school that could turn out such happy girls. He wanted to know whether the girls would be well cared for and kindly treated, so he asked a great many different people. Every one told him the same thing.

"Oh, yes, everybody knows that the Sahib and Madam-Sahib are kind. Of course they do many strange things. They don't worship idols, and their women sometimes don't marry until they are quite old. But they say that in those Christian schools where they teach the Jesus story, every one is happy."

One hot spring day not long after, the American Madam-Sahib's family were eating their dinner. It was the one time in all the day when they could get away from the school, and the one time when they did not wish to be disturbed. Suddenly they heard a noise. In one of the wide-open windows of the dining-room, on the low veranda outside, stood a Hindu shopkeeper. He had boldly walked straight up through the gate and to the veranda of the house. He had in his arms a pretty little four-year-old girl with black eyes, black hair, and a very sweet smile.

You can imagine how surprised every one in the Sahib's family was to look up and see a man—it was Bhagirthi's father—standing at the window, holding out his little girl in his arms. Then he began to talk. He told how he had been watching the happy schoolgirls go by his shop for a long time past, and how their bright faces had set him thinking.

"Please take her, Sahib!" he said. "I want her to be happy."

Of course the American family could not say no. When a man was so eager for his

daughter to be happy that he was willing to give her up and see her only once or twice a week, how could they refuse? They knew how much he must love her.

Bhagirthi cried a good deal at first, of course. Wouldn't you have cried, too? She missed the bazaar and the busy street, and most of all she missed her father. But soon she stopped all that. Her father came to see her once a week, on Saturdays, when relatives were allowed to visit the school.

After a while Bhagirthi began to learn her numbers and her alphabet with the other little girls. Then she began to learn by heart all sorts of beautiful songs and some verses about God and Jesus. And she played—oh, how much she enjoyed that!—in the afternoons with the other girls in the large, shady yard of the girls' school. She never heard anything more about marrying; the talk was only about lessons and games and the things that all little girls are interested in everywhere. She had plenty of good food to eat and she grew very fast.

When she was old enough, Bhagirthi began

going to the services of the church. Of course, this meant that now she also wore a pink or blue dress and a white *lugadi,* and was herself one of that long line of girls that passed in front of her father's grain shop. The father would watch—so proudly!—to see her coming along, Sunday after Sunday. His relatives had made him a great deal of trouble, to be sure, but now they began to see for themselves how happy his daughter was and how well she looked.

As Bhagirthi grew older, she began to think for herself. She noticed how kind everybody was in the school. While she sewed or studied her lessons or wove wreaths of tuberoses with her schoolmates, she also came to love Jesus. Often she would talk to her father about Him.

To-day if you should see Bhagirthi in the city of Bombay, you would know, just by looking at her, that she is happy, and I think you would guess that she has decided to try all her life to be like the "little Jesus" whom she came to love when she was a tiny girl. She would tell you with shining eyes how happy she is that long ago her father sat in the door of his

shop and thought up this wonderful way of making his little girl happy.[1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Italian Hymn

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for Thou shalt judge the people righteously and govern the nations upon earth. Let the people praise Thee, O God, let all the people praise Thee."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Thou, Whose Almighty Word"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 46

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other

[1] "Bhagirthi: A Story of India," by Katharine H. Wannamaker, from *India Picture Stories*. Copyright, Missionary Education Movement. Used by permission.

children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them known that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Christ for the World We Sing"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS
"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun."
"From Greenland's Icy Mountains."

CHAPTER EIGHT

MARCH: FAITH

FIRST SUNDAY: FAITH IN GOD

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "Father, Lead Me Day by Day"

Scripture: Matt. 5: 3–9

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

There are many grown-up ways of telling what faith is; but we are more interested in feeling what faith is than in being told what it is.

First of all, there is faith in God. Let us pretend that your birthday comes next month. Of course you expect some gifts. In fact, you are sure that you will receive some. If I asked you why, I think you would tell me that you can always depend on your mother and father, and that they think too much of you to forget

your birthday. It is like that with God. He is our Heavenly Father, who gives us all things. We can be sure that he thinks too much of us to forget us. Even when we forget about Him, or do things that make Him unhappy, He keeps on loving and caring for us, just as our parents do when we are unkind or thoughtless toward them.

But it is not enough for God just to be there; it is not even enough that He always loves and cares for us. He cannot really be our Heavenly Father unless we believe in Him enough to act as His children. He can give us so much, help us so much, and be so near, if we will only let Him. All the great men and women who have ever lived have been great because of their faith in God.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Canonbury

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praise unto Thy name, O Most High, to show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning and Thy faithfulness every night."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 37: 3–9 (Unison)

PRAYER:

Almighty God, Who art the same yesterday, to-day, and forever, help us to know Thee as our Father in Whom we can have faith at all times. We can do nothing alone by ourselves; but if we live close to Thee we can work for Thy kingdom. Increase our faith; renew our courage. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;

In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving ev'ry day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "Take My Life and Let It Be"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS

"Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness." "Purer, Yet, and Purer."

SECOND SUNDAY: FAITH IN JESUS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

One day Jesus was walking along the shore of a lake. He saw men fishing. He invited four of them to become his followers. Immediately they left their fishing, which was their regular business, and went with him. Jesus was probably not a stranger to these four fishermen. They could have known him as an ordinary carpenter in Nazareth. Later they had seen him begin his real work, the spreading of the good news that God is the loving Heavenly Father of all people everywhere. They had seen the way all people came to him, with faith and confidence that he could help them, no matter what their needs were. Surely they had heard Jesus telling about the Kingdom of God. They knew that Jesus was always courageous, always kind, always generous, al-

ways loving. When he asked those four fishermen to share in his work, they had so much faith in him that they never questioned; they simply went.

So it is with us to-day. Jesus calls each of us, those who are little as well as those who are big, to help him. Think what a wonderful adventure it will be, and all that we need to begin with is faith in him, and willingness to try to live as he lived.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Bullinger

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praise unto Thy name, O Most High, to show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning and Thy faithfulness every night."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house, and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when we pray."

HYMN: "Shepherd of Tender Youth"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 14:6–12
PRAYER:

Almighty and everlasting God, we know not how to thank Thee for sending Jesus to the world that we might know Thee as our Father. We thank Thee, too, for those fishermen whose faith in him was so great that they were ready to leave all else to become his followers. Give us hearts set on fire by the inspiration of his life. Give us courage and patience to pattern our lives after his. May we be living messengers of the good news he brought to the world. In his name we pray. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving every day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
  Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
  Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"When Morning Gilds the Skies." "O Jesus, I have Promised."

THIRD SUNDAY: HEROES AND HEROINES OF THE FAITH

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Let each class choose some person or event, illustrating faith in God, in Jesus, or in both. The choice may be made from the Bible, or from later times, including the present. Each class will interpret its choice as it sees fit, by dramatization, impersonation, or description. This will make it necessary for the teachers to talk the matter over with their classes several Sundays in advance. The older children, in particular, should be urged to make their selections from the present.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea
CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praise unto Thy name, O

Most High, to show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning and Thy faithfulness every night."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Hebrews 11

PRAYER:

O God, we praise Thee for those men and women of all ages who have had faith in Thee and in Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Fill us with that same faith, that we, trusting in Thee, and following the leadership of our Master, may work steadfastly for Thy Kingdom. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving ev'ry day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Come, Thou Almighty King." "Blest Be the Tie That Binds Our Hearts in Christian Love."

FOURTH SUNDAY: GOD'S CHILDREN HAVE FAITH IN EACH OTHER

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Away across the big, wide ocean, around on the other side of the world is the beautiful land of Japan. Here they have names for things and people and places that seem very peculiar to us, just as ours seem odd to them. In the center of this land of Japan there is a tiny country village by the name of Bird's-nest town. In Bird's-nest town there lives a happy little girl. Her name you would never guess, because it is to us as odd as the name of the village she lives in. It is O Matsu San,[1] which

[1] O Maht-soo Sahn.

means "Pine-Tree." Happy little Miss Pine-Tree has a baby brother, and he too has such a curious name. His name is Number One. One of Pine-Tree's daily duties is to take care of Number One, so she ties him on her back, and he bobs along wherever she goes.

In Bird's-nest town there is a little Sunday school, with only twenty-three little boys and girls. There are only five men and women who belong to the church in Bird's-nest town, so they do not have a beautiful church building with a fine, big Sunday-school chapel, with nice rooms for boys and girls, and chairs, and table, and a piano, and song books, and pictures. Instead of all these things, they must have their Sunday school in a tiny Japanese house which has only three little rooms. The walls between these three rooms are made of thin paper pasted on little wooden frames! The Japanese minister of the church lives in the house during the week, and when Sunday comes, he lifts out the paper walls of his little rooms and stands them up in a corner, so that there is just one room in the house for the boys and girls who come to Sunday school. On the gate-post, outside of the house, there hangs

a long board on which are painted these words, "Here is a place where a Christian Sunday School meets." One of the little girls who goes to this Sunday school is little Miss Pine-Tree, and Number One goes along too, of course.

One day in winter when Pine-Tree went to Sunday school, the streets of Bird's-nest town were muddy with cold rain and snow. There are no sidewalks in Japanese villages, so Pine-Tree walked in the middle of the street with flat little wooden shoes to keep her bare feet out of the mud. When she came to the porch of the minister's house, she lifted one foot out of its wooden shoe and set it on the porch floor; then, while little Number One held his arms tightly about her neck, she stepped quickly up out of the other shoe. And there she stood on the clean, shiny porch floor in her bare feet, while her shoes stuck side by side in the mud of the yard. You see, the floor of the house is covered with nice, smooth, soft matting, and no one would think of walking into the house with shoes on.

So Pine-Tree walked into the room, folded her kimono neatly around her knees, curled her feet under her on the soft matting and sat

down on the floor. There are no chairs in a Japanese house. Everybody sits on the floor. There Pine-Tree sat very quietly, while little Number One bobbed his head around to see everything his bright little eyes could find to look at. When all the twenty-three boys and girls of the Sunday school had come, and the boys were sitting on one side of the room and the girls on the other, the minister came in to greet his Sunday-school children. The Japanese minister was a chubby little man, with a round happy face and eyes that always twinkled and lips that always smiled; so the children all loved him. He sat down in front of them and said a lot of nice little things and bowed to all of them. Then Pine-Tree, and all the other boys and girls, bowed to him while their faces touched the floor, while Number One held on as well as he could with his little arms and legs to keep from slipping off sister's back.

Then Sunday school began. This was such a little Sunday school that the minister was everything—pastor, superintendent, song leader, and teacher. Of course, the first thing to do in Sunday school is to pray. So while the

minister prayed, all the boys and girls bowed their faces to the floor. And they were so quiet and still! No one peeped around to see what any one else was doing—except, of course, little Number One, who was peeping all the time.

After the prayer, there was a song. And how Japanese children do like to sing! They sang with all their might. You should have seen Pine-Tree swinging back and forth and singing at the top of her voice. This pleased Number One very much. He liked this better than anything else in Sunday school. They had no hymn books, so the song was written on a large sheet of paper that hung on a bamboo pole beside the minister. He pointed to the words with a pointer, while the children sang. But Pine-Tree did not look at him or at the words. She knew every hymn on the song sheets by heart.

Then the minister pulled an odd little book out of his big sleeve, which he used as a pocket, and began to call the roll. When he called a little boy's name, the boy would shout out "Hai!" [1] so loud that one could hear it clear

[1] Ha-ee. The two vowels said very fast together, as one sound.

across the street. But when a little girl's name was called, she answered as a little Japanese girl should, in a soft, low, small voice, "Hai!" So when the minister said, "O Matsu San," little Miss Pine-Tree dropped her eyes and answered softly, "Hai!"

Then the minister read the Sunday-school lesson, one of the stories about the life of Jesus. Pine-Tree's eyes beamed as she listened, and every now and then a smile broke out over her happy face.

The lesson ended, and then came something that made the children very happy. Some boys and girls in a Sunday school in America had sent over to their missionary a lot of beautiful American Sunday-school picture-cards. The missionary had given some of these to the minister of this little Sunday school, and now he gave one to each boy and girl. When Pine-Tree saw her beautiful card, she smiled her happy smile again, while Number One clutched his bright red card in his little fat hand and looked at it and looked it, oh, so seriously.

Then Pine-Tree stood up with the others

to sing the closing hymn. She swayed farther and faster with Number One on her back—the more she swayed, the better he liked it—and he clapped his little hands and shouted, too.

Then Sunday school was over, and they all scampered out to the porch where forty-six little flat shoes were stuck in the mud. Each picked out his own shoes, jumped into them, and went clattering down the street—all but Pine-Tree and Number One, and this is why they did not go too.

It happened that there was a visitor from America at the Sunday school that day, and he wanted to get a picture of some one who would always remind him of the dear little Sunday school of Bird's-nest town. When he looked over all the faces of the boys and girls, he decided that the happy face of little Miss Pine-Tree and her brother, Number One, would be just the very thing he wanted. So the minister asked them to stay after Sunday school, and then the visitor took them out into the little garden back of the Sunday-school house and took a picture of them.

Pine-Tree was very much excited. It was the first time in her life that she had had her picture taken.

"You see," the minister explained to her, "our visitor from America is going to take the picture home to his country, and when he talks to boys and girls in Sunday schools there he will show them the picture and say, 'This is our friend Miss Pine-Tree in a Sunday school in Japan.' "

Of course you can imagine that Pine-Tree thought that was very wonderful, and she went running home with sleepy Number One to tell her mother how a part of her was going in a magic box to America.

"Do you think the boys and girls of America will just think I look funny?" asked Miss Pine-Tree of her mother. "They look so queer to me, with ribbons on their hair and such odd clothes. Their skirts are so short, and they wear such queer things on their feet in place of sandals."

"No," replied Miss Pine-Tree's mother, "not all of them will think you are funny. Some of them will look at your happy smile and will say, 'I think I should like to play with

that little girl.' And another may say: 'Miss Pine-Tree helps her mother by taking care of her baby brother. I think I will take care of my baby brother to-day.' "

"We are both just little girls, then, aren't we?" said Miss Pine-Tree. "Only one of us lives on one side of a big ocean, and the other lives on the other side, and we both have mothers and baby brothers and Sunday schools!" [1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Canonbury

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praise unto Thy name, O Most High, to show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning and Thy faithfulness every night."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

[1] "Little Miss Pine-Tree," by Arthur V. Casselman, from *Japan Picture Stories*. Copyright, Missionary Education Movement. Used by permission.

HYMN: "Let the Song Go Round the Earth"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 10: 9–16
PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the

Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
  Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
  Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "From Greenland's Icy Mountains"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Thou Whose Almighty Word." "Fling Out the Banner, Let It Float."

CHAPTER NINE

APRIL: KINDNESS

FIRST SUNDAY: KINDNESS TOWARD THE FLOWERS AND ANIMALS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "I Would Be True"

Scripture: Psalm 1

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Spring is such a happy time of year. The birds are coming back to us. If you listen, I am sure you will hear Mr. Robin say to Mrs. Robin: "My dear, spring has come. We must find a suitable location and build our house immediately." The green grass comes peeping through and smiles up at us. The flowers poke their heads up through the brown earth, one by one. They have been sleeping ever so long, but now they are wide awake. Every morning you wake up with that wonderful feeling that

here is a glorious new day before you. It makes me think of a little song I once heard: "Ev'ry morning seems to say, 'There's something happy on the way, and God sends love to you.' "

We all want to thank the Heavenly Father for that love. We shall put that thank-you in our prayers; but we must act thank-you as well as say thank-you. I am sure that God will know that we are acting thank-you if we are kind to all His spring messengers. We will be kind to the birds. We will keep any harm from coming to their nests. We will not walk on the flowers, nor pick any of them carelessly.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Dix

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader)

"Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands. Sing forth the honor of His name; make His praise glorious."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "For the Beauty of the Earth"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matt. 5: 3–16
PRAYER:

O God, our Father, all the world about us tells us of Thy love. We thank Thee for the green grass, the birds, and the flowers. Help us to remember to treat them kindly because they are Thy messengers, and to share them with others. Amen.

RESPONSE X (Sung in unison):

"God, our Father, hear us,
Keep us safe all day,
Let us grow like Jesus,
Lead us in His Way.

"Make us good and gentle,
Kind and loving too,
Pleasing God in all things
That we say or do.

"All that makes us happy
Comes from God above:
So we thank Thee, Father,
For Thy care and love."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "This Is My Father's World"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,

Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty."
"O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea."

SECOND SUNDAY: KINDNESS TOWARD THOSE WHO LOVE US

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Whether we are little or big, we want to be kind to those who are so kind to us in our homes. Sometimes it is a very easy and pleasant thing to be kind. Sometimes it means hard work and giving up things we ourselves should like to do. Miss ———'s class is going to act for us the story of Ruth's kindness to Naomi.

Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah were walking sadly along the road. Naomi's two sons, who had been the husbands of Ruth and Orpah, had died. Naomi's husband was also dead. Naomi was alone in a strange land. There was no

longer any one to love and care for her. So the only thing for her to do was to return to Bethlehem, the place from which she had come. She was saying good-by to her two daughters-in-law. Both Orpah and Ruth loved Naomi. They did not wish her to leave them, so they said: "Nay, but we will return with thee unto thy people." But Naomi knew that they would not be happy in a strange land, among strange people and strange customs. So she told them both to return to their mothers' homes.

Orpah went, slowly and sadly. Then Naomi turned to Ruth and said: "Behold, thy sister-in-law is gone back unto her people, and unto her god. Return thou with thy sister-in-law."

But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave thee, and to return from following after thee; whither thou goest, I will go: whither thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God my God."

Naomi said no more. She and Ruth went together to Bethlehem. They were very poor. There was no one to care for them. Ruth could not bear to see Naomi hungry, yet what could she do in a strange land where people did things

otherwise than in the land from which she had come? Finally she saw that there was nothing else to be done, so she went into the grain fields to pick up the bits of grain which the farmers had left behind when they raked the fields. Ruth worked very hard all day in the hot sun, and when evening came, she carried home to Naomi all the grain she had found. At least they could have something to eat.

One day, the man who owned the field saw Ruth and asked one of his helpers who she was. The helper told him about Ruth and Naomi, how poor they were, how Ruth had cared so much for Naomi that she had left her own people, how hard Ruth worked in the fields. The owner told the helper to rake his fields less carefully, so there would be more grain for Ruth. When noon came, the owner of the field brought Ruth some lunch. She was very hungry, but she ate only a little, and saved the rest to take home to Naomi.

And so Ruth worked, caring for her mother-in-law. She was so brave and unselfish that others began to help her. She and Naomi lived happily together, for they were always thoughtful and kind to each other.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Posen

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader)

"Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands. Sing forth the honor of His name; make His praise glorious."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "At Thy Feet, Our God and Father"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 12: 1–18

PRAYER:

O God, make us more thoughtful toward

the members of our families. We are sorry for our unkind words and for our careless deeds. Grant that we may learn the joy of living happily in our homes, in order that we may find the true meaning of Thy Fatherly love, as Jesus did. Amen.

RESPONSE X (Sung in unison):

"God, our Father, hear us,
Keep us safe all day,
Let us grow like Jesus,
Lead us in His Way.

"Make us good and gentle,
Kind and loving too,
Pleasing God in all things
That we say or do.

"All that makes us happy
Comes from God above:
So we thank Thee, Father,
For Thy care and love."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the

Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "Father, Lead Us Day by Day"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Shepherd of Tender Youth." "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee."

THIRD SUNDAY: KINDNESS AT SCHOOL

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

"What is he, anyway?"

"He's a wop."

"Aw, who ever heard of a yella-haired wop? He's a polecat."

"Naw, he's a Dutchy."

"Anyway, he ain't one of us."

A little boy sat huddled up before his desk. Oh, he understood well enough. Wop, Dutchy, polecat—they were strange names on strange tongues, but when you're called names in any language—well, you know it. He was ashamed. He was ashamed of his towhead and his odd breeches. He was ashamed of his words. They didn't come right.

Once he had been proud. That was the day he had first come to school.

"Allo," he said, and smiled. The little boy at whom he smiled said nothing. He merely dug his hands into his pockets and stared.

"I come to dis school—new boy. My name Peter."

Suddenly the other little boy went off like a firecracker.

"Hey! Hey! Hey, you fellas!" he yelled. "Come look at it. Its name is Peter."

Peter was not proud now. He sat still at his desk. He did not want to be noticed. No, above all else in the world he did not want other little boys to notice him. By flattening his plump little body against the back of his seat he could usually be ignored; but not at the reading lesson. No, not then.

"Peter, your turn now."

Peter stood. His cheeks burned. He knew that every boy in the room had looked up and winked at his special friend. That wink meant, and well Peter knew it, "Now for the fun!"

" 'Dere was vunce a leetle boy—' "

Snickers from the delighted little classmates! A severe look from the teacher.

"Order! Now again, Peter, Not 'dere'—'there'—th-th-there."

"T-t-t'ere," repeated Peter hopelessly.

A gulp from one little boy on the back seat, amused beyond even the fear of the teacher.

"Maybe you had better sit down, Peter," the teacher said. "He really is stupid," she thought. "I don't know what to do about it."

And Peter would look hard at his book and hold back the hot, dimming tears.

Ah, but arithmetic! Numbers—they were the same in this foreign world as they were back home. Shining rows of them waiting to be put together, waiting to be summed up or multiplied or divided, waiting to be made into answers. When the queer, half-familiar words of his reading lesson blurred before his eyes he sought shelter in his battered red arithmetic. Of course he was afraid to hold his hand up to tell the answer. But he knew it. He had it all written down on his paper. He knew it, and he was right!

It was late one afternoon. Peter had been kept in. He was kept in to practise the sound of the English "th." There was another boy kept in too. He sat behind Peter. Peter was very much ashamed to be sitting there practising sounds.

"T-t-" he said hopelessly and monotonously.

He felt it was very silly. The teacher left the room a minute.

"T-t-" he went on monotonously, when suddenly he heard a sniffle behind him. Yes, there it came again, and it sounded suspiciously like a sob. Peter turned cautiously in his seat. There sure enough was Bob—Bob, an Ameri-

can boy—with his head down on his arithmetic book, and his shoulders were shaking.

Peter stopped his "t's" abruptly.

"Vat is matter?" he asked.

Bob raised his head and looked at Peter defiantly. Then he sobbed again.

"I can't get it," he said. "It won't never come right."

"Numbers?"

"Arithmetic."

"Maybe you don't get first part right," Peter suggested. "You don't get first part right, all rest no goot."

He put out his hand for the paper and looked at it.

"You don't get first part right, like I said. You come here. I tell you how to do it."

Bob slid into Peter's seat.

Funny thing—there was a little foreigner, a wop, or a polecat, or a Dutchy, or something, who could do arithmetic better than he, Bob.

"It's like a puzzle—see?" Peter's voice was high with eagerness. "And you find the way out."

"Gee!" said Bob, carried away by admiration. "I thought you was a dummy."

Why are some voices crisp and sharp, and why do some teachers make you jump?

"Well, what is this?" The teacher had come in without making a sound.

"Peter, he was helping me see what this problem was about," Bob explained.

"And did he?"

"Yes'm."

"He must be very good, then," she said dryly.

"Yes'm, he is. There is nothing he don't know about numbers. He says they're like a puzzle—you got to find the way out. Problems sound good the way he explains them."

The teacher looked keenly at Peter for a moment.

"You like arithmetic, then, Peter?"

"Yes, I like numbers better than all."

"But you never hold your hand up to recite."

"No," said Peter in a deprecatory voice. "But you know I don't speak so goot."

"The kids laugh—that's why," explained Bob out of a new wisdom. "But he knows—Peter! He knows."

"I see," said the teacher.

Bob and Peter left the schoolroom together.

"Say, wanta come over to Mackay's and play ball?"

Peter's eyes shone.

"Maybe dey wouldn't like me to come," he suggested timidly.

"Sure they'd like you to come. They don't know nothin', those boys. They think all wops is dumb—see? Well, they'll get over that when they know you."

"Who ever heard," said Peter softly, "of a yella-haired wop?"

"Well, what are you—a Dutchy? You don't mind being called a Dutchy, do you?"

"It isn't vat you call me by," explained Peter happily. "It's joost de vay you say it."

The two boys turned off toward Mackay's ball field; and neither knew how wise they had become.[1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Pater Omnium

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader)

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye

[1] "It's the Way You Say It," by Dorothy F. McConnell, from *Peacemakers*. Copyright, The National Council, Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S. A. Used by permission.

lands. Sing forth the honor of His name; make His praise glorious."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: II Sam. 9: 1–11. This is the story of King David's kindness to the lame son of his dear friend Jonathan.

PRAYER:

Our Father, God, who seest our hearts, Thou knowest that we are ashamed when we

remember our unkind deeds and words. Forgive us, we pray Thee; and put it into the hearts of those to whom we have been unkind to forgive us. Make us more kind and thoughtful, like Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE X (Sung in unison):

"God, our Father, hear us,
Keep us safe all day,
Let us grow like Jesus,
Lead us in His Way.

"Make us good and gentle,
Kind and loving too,
Pleasing God in all things
That we say or do.

"All that makes us happy
Comes from God above:
So we thank Thee, Father,
For Thy care and love."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "Father in Heaven, Who Lovest All"

CLOSING SENTENCE:

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Come, Thou Almighty King." "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind."

FOURTH SUNDAY: BEING KIND TO GOD'S CHILDREN FAR AWAY (MISSIONS)

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

There was a boy named Chang Lu, who

lived in China in a big city. His father was blind, his mother was sick, and they were all so poor that Chang Lu never had enough to eat in his life. Always his chopsticks scraped the bottom of the empty rice bowl while he was still very hungry.

Then Chang Lu, hungry and cold, would start out for his day's work. He went tapping along the narrow street using a stick to find his way, for his eyes were almost blind. He stopped to rest every little while, for he felt sick as well as hungry. Outside the city on the hillside he worked and rested and worked again until he gathered a big bundle of sticks. Then he tied his bundle together and started for home.

When he came to the market he sat down with his bundle beside him until some one bought the sticks for firewood. Then he spent his few coins for rice for his sick mother, his blind father, and his very hungry self.

One day, as the Chinese nurses from the hospital on the hilltop were on their way to the church they met Chang Lu with the heavy load of wood on his back. The poor little fellow looked too sick to walk, and he had to stop

and rest every few minutes. The nurses stopped and spoke to him. They told him they were going to the church to help the sick people who came there every day.

They told Chang Lu if he would come to the church they would give him some medicine and a ticket to help him get food. He did not go that day. Perhaps he was afraid. He went home when he had sold his sticks and told his mother. The next day he met the nurses again, and again they asked him to come to the church. He was so hungry and sick that he went. Then he went again and again. Each time he was given medicine and food, and he was no longer afraid. He was not even afraid any more of the missionary doctor, who was not Chinese but an American woman.

One day the nurses told Chang Lu the American doctor could cure his bad eyes if he would come to the hospital. So Chang Lu came to the hospital to stay awhile.

The American doctor operated and soon had the bad eyes almost well. Chang Lu was a happy boy. He lay in the white bed listening to an American phonograph making music.

He was not hungry nor cold nor tired but only happy. He could not understand why this was being done for him.

"Who will pay for my rice?" he asked. "It is already paid for," the Chinese nurse told him, and his medicine bill was also paid.

Then she told of American Sunday-school children who had saved and given money for the missionary doctor to help some sick child.

"Why did they give?" asked Chang Lu, and the nurse told him. She told him of Jesus.

"I'm so glad," he said.

Now he is well, and his mother is well. All the neighbors say, "This strong, happy boy who smiles is the boy who used to be sad and blind." They say, "He had no money, but the doctor did not send him away. Children far away gave the money."

The American children who gave were glad, too, because they could "present gifts" to Jesus through helping Chang Lu. And Chang Lu was happy because he had become a friend of Jesus.[1]

[1] "How Chang Lu Became a Friend of Jesus." From *World Neighbors,* January, 1927. Reprinted by permission of The Methodist Book Concern.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Elmhurst

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader)

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Sing forth the honor of His name; make His praise glorious."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Light of the World, We Hail Thee"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 117

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all chil-

dren everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "Send Thou, O Lord, to Every Place"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun."
"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations."

CHAPTER TEN

MAY: HONESTY

FIRST SUNDAY: BEING HONEST ABOUT MONEY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "Just as I Am, Thine Own to Be"

Scripture: Psalm 84

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Barbara was hurrying home from school. All at once she stopped so suddenly that she almost tumbled on her nose. There was a little brown purse almost hidden in the grass. She picked it up; felt it. Yes, there was money inside. She opened it. Out rolled three nickels and a dime. She looked around quickly. No one had seen her pick up the purse. It was hers. Now she could buy Mother those blue beads in time for Mother's Day. The blue beads had been in the store window almost a

week. Barbara had looked longingly at them each day. She could think of nothing she would like so much; so, of course, Mother would like them. Barbara had been saving her money to buy them, but each day as she looked at her money box, she wondered sadly if she could ever get enough money in time. Now she had it, in her hands, and no one could say that it wasn't hers. Hadn't she found it?

She turned around and hurried, even faster than before, toward the store. But somehow she didn't feel just comfortable. At recess she had seen Jane proudly showing her purse and the money in it. When Barbara thought about it carefully, she was sure that Jane's purse had been brown. Yes, it had looked just exactly like the one she was clutching so tightly. But Jane's father was rich. Probably Jane could have twenty-five cents whenever she asked for it. And Barbara never had more than a few pennies that were really truly hers.

By this time she was walking ever so slowly. The store was just ahead. She could see the blue beads in the window. She stopped and looked. Then she turned and ran, so fast that she arrived at Jane's house all breathless.

"Jane, did you drop your purse?" "Oh, yes, Barbara, did you find it? Thank you so much. Can't you stay and play with me?" "No, thank you, I promised Mother to take care of the baby." And Barbara went slowly home. At bedtime, she whispered the whole story into Mother's ear. Mother held her close and said, "I think a little girl who wouldn't take money that didn't belong to her is the very best Mother's Day gift of all."

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Monsell

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Unto Thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto Thee do we give thanks; for that Thy name is near, Thy wondrous works declare."

RESPONSE XI (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 1 (Unison)

PRAYER:

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, make us honest in our deeds and in our hearts. Strengthen us, that we may never take that which belongs to another. Make us ever mindful that all we have comes from Thee, that we may not keep it selfishly for ourselves, but share it generously with others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE XVI (Sung in unison):

"Be Thou with us every day,
In our work and in our play;
When we sing and when we pray—
Hear us, O our Father!

"Make us brave, without a fear;
Make us strong and full of cheer,
Sure that Thou art always near—
And wilt hear us, Father."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "I Would Be True"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Ancient of Days, Who Sittest Throned in Glory." "Purer, Yet, and Purer."

SECOND SUNDAY: BEING HONEST ABOUT OUR WORK

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

It was a warm spring afternoon, and Jack did so want to go out and play ball. But he had been so careless about his arithmetic that morning that Miss Richardson had said that he must do all the examples over after school. So there he was, all alone, for even Miss Richardson had gone somewhere. He scowled at his paper. Three more long-division examples. He hated long division. By the time he finished them it would be so late that he would have to go home to do his evening chores.

It just wasn't fair. There was Phil. Phil didn't care much about playing ball, but of course he had a perfect paper—he always did. Jack had seen him proudly putting his paper, with its big red 100, away in his desk. If he were just to peep at Phil's paper for a minute he could see how those three examples went, and what the answers were. Then he could do his much faster. Perhaps there would be time for a little ball before he had to go home. And it wasn't as if he couldn't do long division all by himself, if he had to.

But what would Uncle Bill say? Only the

night before, Jack had heard Uncle Bill tell Father that So-and-So would never be a real man because he sponged on other people. Uncle Bill had even said that So-and-So was a cheat. "No, sir," said Jack to himself, "I'll do these examples if it's dark before I get through."

"That's fine, Jack," said Miss Richardson as she entered the room. "You see I knew it was safe to leave you alone because I could depend upon you to be honest."

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Unto Thee, O God, do we give thanks; unto Thee do we give thanks; for that Thy name is near, Thy wondrous works declare."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 19

PRAYER:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, strengthen us that we may do only those things which are honest and true and well-pleasing in Thy sight. We thank Thee for the work Thou hast given us to do thoroughly and well, as becomes the disciples of Jesus, and children of Thine. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE XVI (Sung in unison):

"Be Thou with us every day,
In our work and in our play;
When we sing and when we pray—
Hear us, O our Father!

"Make us brave, without a fear;
Make us strong and full of cheer,
Sure that Thou art always near—
And wilt hear us, Father."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father."

"Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "Dare to Be Brave, Dare to Be True"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness." "In the Hour of Trial."

THIRD SUNDAY: TELLING THE TRUTH

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:
There are two ways in which we tell the truth: one is by what we say, and the other is

by what we do. To say only that which we know to be true is not all there is to being truthful. Suppose you knock over a vase of flowers Mother has placed on a low table. She thinks the baby did it, and you let her keep on thinking so. Are you being truthful? Or suppose you tell Mother that you love her so much that you want to help her every way you can, and then grumble when she asks you to do an errand. Are you being truthful?

Worship Period

PRELUDE: St. Asaph

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Unto Thee, O God, do we give thanks; unto Thee do we give thanks; for that Thy name is near, Thy wondrous works declare."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "At Thy Feet, Our God and Father"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Philippians 4: 1, 4–9

PRAYER:

O Thou great God of truth, make our words, our deeds, and our thoughts truthful, that we may steadfastly serve Thee. Grant that because we know the joy and confidence which comes from companionship with Thy Son, Jesus, we may so live with others as to show them Thy Fatherly love. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE XVI (Sung in unison):

"Be Thou with us every day,
In our work and in our play;
When we sing and when we pray—
Hear us, O our Father!

"Make us brave, without a fear;
Make us strong and full of cheer,
Sure that Thou art always near—
And wilt hear us, Father."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee.
Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "I Would Be True"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Come, Thou Almighty King." "Keep Thyself Pure."

FOURTH SUNDAY: BEING HONEST WITH GOD'S GIFTS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

It was a beautiful morning, all blue and gold and green. The sun shone warmly down on the

roof of a great green forest, and shed its rays on the little villages scattered here and there among the giant trees. It touched with gold the crooked paths that cut their winding way through the forest. It scattered handfuls of diamonds into the rippling streams and sparkling falls. It smiled upon the perky red kerchief and swaying bustle of Marta, as she hurried along the broad highway that led to the house of God. Marta's skin shone like brown satin. Her eyes were black as the night. Her heart was full of gladness, and her song was full of joy.

Everybody loved Marta; nobody could help it, so bright and cheery and lovable was she. As she reached the church and entered the Sunday-school room, a score of little friends hailed her. "*Mbolo,* Marta—come sit by me!" they cried, while brown eyes looked approvingly at the cleanness of her skin and the sweetness of her smile.

Just after Marta was seated, a hush fell over the group as the door opened and Mrs. Missionary entered. Sunday school began. They sang heartily. They prayed quietly. They retold the lessons of weeks past.

"The rains are beginning," said Mrs. Missionary. "What are your mothers doing these days?"

"Making gardens!" shouted the children of the mothers.

"And what will they do with them?"

"Eat the food of them!"

"And who makes the gardens grow?"

"God does."

"Then is not part of the food really His?"

"So it is!"

"Then I wonder if some of you would not like to share your gardens with Him this year. Plant a portion just for Him, and bring the fruits here as an offering. The money could help send a teacher to some little children who have no school to go to, and no church. How many of you would like to do that?"

Up flew the black hands, quick hands, hands that knew how to work. Marta's hand flew up with them. She could hardly wait for Monday to come, so eager was she to be starting. Let's see: she could plant peanuts and corn and sweet potatoes. She would get them from her mother.

When Sunday school was over Marta went

back to the highway. Again the sun shone down on her jaunty kerchief and swaying bustle. It still smiled upon her as she entered the dark doorway of the tiny house that was her home. But inside the house it could not shine, for there were no windows and the doors were very small. Marta's mother was bathing the baby, Marta's little brother, Ela. She had a gourdful of cold water in her hand and was pouring it over him. Baby Ela gasped and squealed and sputtered and wriggled and wiggled and squirmed. His body shone with wetness.

"Mother, I'm going to plant a garden," said Marta.

"You're going to plant a garden? Why, surely, Marta, you and I will be planting for many days now, for the rains have begun."

"But I mean I am going to make one all by myself, Mother. It is to help send a teacher to Bafin. I will not eat of it, but will take it to the Sunday school as an offering."

"What!" exclaimed Marta's mother. "Plant a garden and not eat of it? What sort of doing is this?"

"Lots of the Sunday-school children are

going to do it, for you know the Lord makes the garden grow, so really it is His. And just think how glad those Bafin children will be to have a school! You will give me some corn and peanuts to plant, won't you, Mother?"

"Yes, my child. Take what you want to make your garden. There is a nice place, all cleared, right next to my plantain grove. And here are some charms you may have to drive away bad luck."

Marta looked at the handful of charms her mother was offering her—bits of wood, bark, leaves, carved shells. Her mother's garden was full of such charms, hidden in gourds, hung on poles. So were all the gardens of all the people of the village.

Marta hesitated. Should she put charms in her garden, too? Would things really grow without them? Then she remembered. This was to be the Lord's garden, so of course He would take care of it. She did not need charms.

So Marta took just a little basket of peanuts and another of corn, and then she went to prepare her garden. She used a funny short-handled hoe, and she bent down almost double as she worked. There were square beds for the

peanuts, round mounds for the corn. Day after day she toiled, and the weeds disappeared and the earth showed soft and brown.

"Bi abe mvon,
Zambe a no mven," [1]

she sang at the top of her voice, and the sun smiled down on her from a blue sky.

Days passed, rain fell, the sun shone. Up from the soft earth shot the first green spears of corn, the first wee leaves of the peanut plants. Anxiously Marta watched them grow. Taller and taller grew the corn. Larger grew the green leaves. Ears! Blossoms! And finally the ripened corn, the fat kernels.

Marta's mother went with her to the garden. She looked at the waving corn, the carpet of peanut beds.

"You have done well, my child," she said. "Your garden is good. To-morrow we shall dig up the peanuts."

Marta's heart was glad. She looked up at the blue sky. The sun was sinking behind the hills, but it seemed to send one last smiling ray to whisper to her: "God loves you, my child.

[1] "We plant the seed, God sends the rain."

He is well pleased with your good work."

Then the sun slipped behind a hill, and night fell. Darkness hovered over the roof of the great green forest. The crooked paths were blotted out. The villages slept in the hush of night. Marta lay on her bamboo bed by the smoke of the dying fire. Opposite her slept her mother with the baby brother Ela snuggled close to her side. In the darkness Marta lay thinking of that glad day when she would take her harvest to the house of God.

That glad day came. The early morning drum awakened her. Through the miles of forest, echoing through the trees the great voice boomed out its Sabbath welcome.

"Everybody come; everybody come;
Everybody, everybody, everybody—come!"

Marta jumped up from the bamboo bed. She ran out gaily into the gray dawn, down, down the dew-drenched path, the tall green ferns dripping silver drops on her brown body as she went straight into the singing stream. Splash! splash! splash! where the water was deepest. Up again, clean and shiny and shivering, white teeth gleaming, brown eyes shining,

dimples flashing. Now she was all bathed and ready for the great day.

A few hours later the sun climbed over the tree-tops and gazed down on the clearing where stood the church. Marta peeked through the door in the side of the church, and there on the platform she saw a familiar sight: stacks and stacks of peanuts, piles and piles of corn, heaps and heaps of sweet potatoes—the very ones God had smiled upon as they grew in the garden. And there, too, fondling them with proud eyes, were the little farmers seated on the rows of poles that served as pews, each searching out from among the offerings the work of his own hands. And there on the front pole, eyes dancing with joy, toes dangling in midair, heart throbbing with love, was glad-faced Marta.[1]

NOTE TO LEADER: The above story may suggest a project for your group. This is the time to suggest to your children that they, too, plant a part of their gardens for the Heavenly Father; and bring to Him their harvest at Thanksgiving time. Perhaps they will prefer

[1] "Marta's Garden," by Lois Johnson McNeill, from *Africa Picture Stories*. Copyright, Missionary Education Movement. Used by permisson.

to sell their produce, and use the money to buy gifts of food to be distributed among the poor. Where practical, however, they should be urged to bring their actual crops.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Canonbury

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Unto Thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto Thee do we give thanks; for that Thy name is near, Thy wondrous works declare."

RESPONSE XV (Sung in unison):

"Lord, this day Thy children meet
In Thy house, with willing feet;
Unto Thee this day they raise
Grateful hearts in hymns of praise."

HYMN: "Hail to the Brightness of Zion's Glad Morning"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matt. 28: 18–20

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn

about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XVII (Sung in unison):

We bring our gifts, we bring ourselves,
Our Father, God, to Thee,

Make them, make us, we pray Thee, Lord,
Thy messengers to be.

HYMN: "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Thou Whose Almighty Word." "Christ for the World, We Sing."

CHAPTER ELEVEN

JUNE: LOYALTY

FIRST SUNDAY: BEING LOYAL TO OUR FRIENDS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

Scripture: Luke 10: 25–37

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

We all have friends upon whom we feel that we can depend. And, in turn, each of us wants his friends to depend on him. We want our friends to know that, whatever happens, as long as they are honest and do what is right, we will be loyal to them. Miss ——'s class is going to act for us the story of a loyal friendship:

David and Jonathan

David, the shepherd boy, had grown to young manhood. His deeds of bravery had

been told to King Saul, who commanded that David be brought before him. Saul was pleased with David, and ordered that David should not return to his father's house. David became one of Saul's military leaders. He and Saul's son, Jonathan, became friends. They promised that no matter what happened, they would always love one another. Jonathan even gave David some of his beautiful clothing.

In all battles, David was victor. He became very popular. People began to suggest that David was even greater than Saul. This made Saul jealous. He attempted to kill David but failed. Then he sent David into dangerous battles, hoping that David would be killed. But God took care of David, and he always returned safely.

All the while, Saul was becoming more and more angry, and more and more jealous. Also, he feared David because he had God's protection. He finally ordered Jonathan and his servants to kill David. But Jonathan found David, and warned him of his danger. David hid. Jonathan pleaded with his father to spare David. Saul finally promised that David

should be safe. But soon afterward David won another great victory, and Saul was so jealous that he again tried to kill him. Again David escaped and hid in distant places.

All this time, Jonathan had been David's loyal friend. He helped David in every way he could. He took him food and clothes, and told him what things were going on, and where Saul's soldiers were searching for him. We do not realize just what a loyal friend Jonathan was, unless we remind ourselves that but for David, he, Jonathan, would have been the next king. But Jonathan loved David so much that he even wanted him to be king.

Finally, after Saul had failed many times to catch David, he and his army slept one night in a cave which was near the place where David was hiding. While Saul slept, David crept in and looked at him. Imagine you are David. Here, before you, lies the man who has tried in every way to kill you. You can easily kill him, and no one will blame you for having your revenge. But just as Jonathan had been loyal to him, David was loyal to the king, his friend's father. He quietly cut off a piece of

Saul's cloak, and stole away. In the morning, as Saul was leaving the cave, David knelt before him, and told of his visit. When Saul saw the piece of his cloak, he knew that David had indeed been there and had not taken revenge. Saul then said to David: "Thou art more righteous than I; for thou hast rewarded me with good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil" (I Sam. 24: 17). And so, because Jonathan was at all times loyal to David, and because David was loyal to Jonathan, he was able to return to the king's favor.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Posen

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the excellence of His greatness. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,

Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Philippians 4:4–9

PRAYER:

Almighty God, our Father, grant to us love and courage, that, following the example of our Master, Jesus Christ, we may be loyal to our friends, to him and to Thee. Forgive us for the times when we have been careless and thoughtless. Give us grace that we may hereafter so think and act as to be worthy to be depended upon. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Father, Lead Me Day by Day"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Light of the World, We Hail Thee." "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee."

SECOND SUNDAY: BEING LOYAL TO JESUS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus chose twelve men to be his companions. These twelve went wherever he went. They believed in him, whether the crowds were friendly or not. These men were Jesus' special friends, not because of what they had done, nor because of what they said they would do, but because they loved him so much and trusted him so completely that he could depend on them. We, too, can be special friends of Jesus, whether we are rich or poor, big or little, if we show him that he can depend on us to do whatever he needs us to do.

Jesus spent his whole life trying to teach people to know and love God, and to live happily together. A great many people did learn to do these things, and they taught their chil-

dren, and friends. And when the children grew up they taught their children and friends, and so on, down to you and me. Now it is our turn to be Jesus' loyal friends that we may teach others the wonderful things he is teaching us.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: "Just as I Am"
CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):
"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the excellence of His greatness. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."
RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Lord, Thy Glory Fills the Heavens"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 1: 16–20

PRAYER:

O God, make us loyal friends of Thy son Jesus. Help us understand how much he needs every one of us to help him, each in the way he will show us. Help us to understand how much we need him. Forgive us for the times when we have been half-hearted. Grant us grace to hear Christ's call and obey it. We pray in his name. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father."
"Freely ye have received, freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Just as I Am, Thine Own to Be"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"When Morning Gilds the Skies." "O Jesus, I Have Promised."

THIRD SUNDAY: BEING LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Jesus was always loyal to his church—to the synagogue, as the Jewish church is called. We

are sure from what St. Luke tells us that he attended its services regularly. We know that he did not like all of the things that the Jewish priests and teachers said and did; but he believed that the synagogue itself was not to blame. The things that he did not like were the fault of ignorant and selfish men. In spite of them, Jesus went to the synagogue to worship; to be about his Father's business.

Certainly if we are to be loyal friends of Jesus, we must be loyal to our church. We need to worship God. We need to learn more of what Jesus expects of his friends. We need the fellowship of others who are trying to be loyal to Jesus. Our church needs us. It needs us here for its services. It needs our money. Most of all, it needs our prayers and our love. It needs to be able to depend on us, just as we depend on it.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His

power. Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the excellence of His greatness. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 84 (Unison)

PRAYER XVIII (Sung in unison):

"Jesus, with Thy church abide,
Be her Saviour, Lord, and Guide,
While on earth her faith is tried;
We beseech thee, hear us.

"May she guide the poor and blind,
Seek the lost until she find,
And the broken-hearted bind:
We beseech thee, hear us.

"Save her love from growing cold,
Make her watchmen strong and bold,
Fence her round, thy peaceful fold:
We beseech thee, hear us.

"May her lamp of truth be bright,
Bid her bear aloft its light,
Bring all nations clearer sight:
We beseech thee, hear us."

(*Or* the following prayer and response:)

PRAYER:

O God, we thank Thee for Thy church. We thank Thee that we can come here to worship Thee. Bless Thy church here in this place. Grant that we may do nothing to harm it, but at all times work to uphold it for Thy honor and glory. Give us grace to love our church as Jesus did. We pray in his name. Amen.

RESPONSE II (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray;
Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere.

"Help us to be good and true,
Jesus' work on earth to do;

All we have with others share,
Ev'ry day and ev'rywhere."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "Rise Up, O Men of God"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Ancient of Days, Who Sittest Throned in Glory." "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord."

FOURTH SUNDAY: A LITTLE ALASKAN GIRL IS LOYAL TO HER FRIEND

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Father had shot a reindeer, and Big Brother had harpooned a seal. So there would be plenty of new clothing, and there was already fresh meat and—Eskimo ice-cream! All from the reindeer and the seal.

I won't stop to tell you now how the reindeer skin and the sealskin would make coats and boots and stockings, and the reindeer sinew the thread to sew them with. But I will tell you about the ice-cream.

Shoo-e-ging-wa's mother took some of the reindeer fat and some of the tallow and seal oil; and she mixed them together, squeezily, with her hands, beat them until they were frothy, and poured them into bowls and pieces of horn and sealskin bags.

Who ever heard of carrying ice-cream

around in a sealskin bag? For that matter, who ever heard of ice-cream without any ice or cream? But it was *good!* Shoo-e-ging-wa held her "poke" open in one hand, dipped in a little brown finger, popped the finger into her mouth, and smiled until her white teeth shone and her black eyes went out in laugh-creases. She hadn't had a bag of ice-cream for a long time.

This was a big one, too. Shoo-e-ging-wa looked at it thoughtfully. She was just about to run down on the ice and play with Me-gish-oo. Should she take the ice-cream along and divide it? Me-gish-oo didn't have many goodies, for there were eleven children in her father's igloo and she was the littlest of all. But it had been months and months since Shoo-e-ging-wa had had as much as she wanted herself.

Slowly she stowed away the bulging bag, safe as safe, and went out to her playmate.

Me-gish-oo had her puppy with her, and she was making a snow house and laughing very hard as she tried to shut him inside. Both girls laughed as they built, and crowded the fluffy puppy in and caught him when he broke his way out.

"Race you to that crack over there!" said Shoo-e-ging-wa.

They set their feet together and kept their knees straight, and then hopped jerkily to the crack, with the puppy dashing round them and nipping at their heels.

Their race was a tie, but no one cared. For at the very instant that the two girls and the puppy bounced over the crack, they felt the ice heaving, and they turned in terror to run back. Alas, the little crack was a wide one, and it grew wider as they looked.

It was a water path—a road—a river! The ice was breaking up, and they were on one of the broken-off pieces, drifting out toward the sea.

Loudly they called for help. The puppy lifted his nose and howled mournfully with them. At the sound, heads appeared in the house-tunnels, and men ran toward the shore. Too late!

Me-gish-oo lifted her head like the puppy and wailed (she was such a very little girl). Shoo-e-ging-wa dashed away the tears that were freezing in salty little icicles on her lashes (she was a whole year older). "My

father will get us," she said stoutly. "I see him harnessing the dogs."

"Etu's father didn't get him, last year," gulped Me-gish-oo. "And it's going to be co-old!" It *was* cold. The wind was rising.

"Let's build a place just big enough for you and me and the puppy," Shoo-e-ging-wa said. "Isn't it lucky you've got your brother's knife? Isn't it lucky I saw them do it last year when we went down to Hoonah?"

They cut big bricks of snow—rather crooked bricks—and made little walls. Over the walls they laid Shoo-e-ging-wa's outside coat for a roof.

"There!" she said triumphantly. "That's a whole lot better than nothing!"

"Y-yes," sniffed Me-gish-oo, "but I'm hungry. And maybe the ice will break up under us. Or maybe there will be a big bear—"

"Hush!" said Shoo-e-ging-wa, while another salty icicle grew on her chin. "My father's going to get us before anything happens. Probably he can see us now, even if we can't see him. He's got the long-looking glasses the missionary gave him. Father'll find a way."

She pushed Me-gish-oo and the puppy in-

side the crooked little shelter, and curled up with them. They were like three furry balls.

"Please, God, You'll take care of us, won't You," she asked, "and show Father the best way to come?"

After a while they went out and ran about the ice to get warm. When the wind grew too piercing, they cuddled in the tiny house and slept or told stories. And for hours and hours they went drifting on their floating island of ice. It had been a day and a night and another day when Father found them.

"I knew God could bring Father," Shoo-e-ging-wa said sleepily, when she was cuddled down on her own platform-bed, with her family gathered around her, and a good smell of food in the air, and a cheerful light glowing from the oil lamps.

Father and Mother smiled and said, "That was right, daughter."

"It was a good thing you had on your heaviest sealskins," said Mother, "and that Me-gish-oo had a knife."

"And that you had taken your ice-cream along," said Father. "How did you happen to carry it, Shoo-e-ging-wa?"

Shoo-e-ging-wa propped open her sleepy eyes to smile at them.

"Wasn't it lucky? We'd have been *so* hungry without it. You see, I was going to share it with Me-gish-oo, so I had it stowed away, safe as safe, in one of my boot-tops." [1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Duke Street

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the excellence of His greatness. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE I (Sung in unison):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of Thee,
Heaven and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high!"

HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

[1] "Wasn't It Lucky?" by Florence Crannell Means, from *Alaska Picture Stories*. Copyright, Missionary Education Movement. Used by permission.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 46

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all children everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response III (Sung in unison):

O fill our hearts with love for Thee,
That we may give unselfishly;
That others, too, may learn Thy love,
Our Father, God, in heaven above.

HYMN: "The Morning Light Is Breaking"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Let the Song Go Round the Earth," "Fling Out the Banner."

CHAPTER TWELVE

JULY: FRIENDSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY: FRIENDSHIP MEANS THOUGHTFULNESS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Scripture: Matt. 25:31–46

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

There are many names by which Jesus is called. One of the finest of them is "friend." Each of us wants friends. Each of us wants to be a friend. There are certain things which we expect of our friends, and that they expect of us. One of these things is thoughtfulness. If we are thoughtful, we will be careful about what we say about other people. Jesus never told unkind stories about his friends.

Scattered Seeds [1]

Margherita had a frown on her forehead and a worried feeling of wrong in her heart. She hadn't been really happy for two whole days—not since she had spoken unkindly of her little friend Marie, and repeated a story about her that she was not sure was true.

She knew she would never feel comfortable about it until she had talked it over with Mother, but she hated to have her know. Finally, she couldn't stand it any longer, and, throwing her arms around her mother's neck, she told her all about it.

Mother looked very sorry, but all she said was, "Rita, I want you to go to the three-acre lot down by the blacksmith shop and gather a handful of the brown seed-pods of the milkweed. On your way home, open the pods and let the little winged seeds fly away for a frolic with the wind. Then come back to me."

This sounded like a very pleasant reproof, and Margherita quickly found some milkweed plants. She ran and hopped and jumped

[1] "Scattered Seeds," from *The Children's Story Garden.* Collected by a Committee of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends. Anna Pettit Broomell, Chairman. Copyright, J. B. Lippincott Company. Used by permission.

through the field, tossing from her hands the silky, floating seeds. Pink-cheeked and smiling, she came back to her mother.

"Now," said Mother, "go back to the field, and, on the way, gather the seeds you have scattered, every one, and bring them to me."

The little girl set out to do as she was bidden. But as she passed along, she found that the frolicsome wind had scattered the delicate seeds far and wide. Even among the leaves of the wayside trees they had flown, and through the hedges, and over the little river that ran through the town. Some of them had found a new field, where they settled themselves to establish new colonies of milkweed plants.

At last, discouraged and almost in tears, Margherita went back to her mother with only a few of the seeds she had scattered.

"My little daughter," Mother said, "it was just this that you did when you scattered unkind words about Marie, whether they were false or true. Spoken words of blame and suspicion may be like little sparks of fire falling in dry grass; they cause great damage—at home, perhaps, or at school, or even in the

world. And words once spoken are scattered like milkweed seeds."

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Sweet Story

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all Thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou Most High."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day;
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison):

SCRIPTURE LESSON: James 3: 1–18

PRAYER:

O God, teach us to speak only those things which are kind and true. Forgive us for the thoughtless and unkind words which we have spoken. Give us the grace to ask forgiveness of our friends. Give us strength of will that we may not be talebearers. Put more love in our

hearts that we may see the good rather than the bad, that we may ever grow more like Jesus. We pray in his name. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do in work or play,
To grow more loving every day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;

Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "I Think When I Read That Sweet Story"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"O Day of Rest and Gladness." "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak."

SECOND SUNDAY: FRIENDSHIP MEANS HELPFULNESS

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Miss ———'s class is going to act for us a story of friendship which Jesus told. (Have Juniors act the Good Samaritan, Luke

10: 25–36. If desired, the story may be slowly read, while the children act it in pantomime. If so done, substitute Psalm 1 for the Scripture Lesson listed below.)

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Germany

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all Thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou Most High."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day;
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray,"

HYMN: "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 10: 25–37

PRAYER:

O God, our Father, grant that we may be neighbors to all who are in need. Give us grace that we may not pass by on the other side when

some one is in trouble. Grant that our lives may be so filled with love and helpfulness that we may love our neighbors as ourselves. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do in work or play,
To grow more loving every day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring
Our gifts of love to Thee;

Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Come, My Soul, Thou Must Be Waking."
"Just as I Am, Thine Own to Be."

THIRD SUNDAY: FRIENDSHIP MEANS SERVICE

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

True friendship is something to work for; it is not something that comes to us while we sit still waiting for it. If it came that way, our friends would not mean so very much to us.

If you feel that you have no real friends, it is probably your fault. I'm sure there are people who would want to be your friends if you would only let them; that means, if you do your part. All of us call Jesus our friend; but he can't be a real friend until we try with all that is in us to be his friend. To be the friend of Jesus is the most wonderful adventure in all the world. It means being as much like him as we can. It means working hard, as he did, to help people and to teach them to live happily together.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Maryton

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all Thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou Most High."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day;
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 10: 35–45
PRAYER:

Great God, our Father, grant that we may become true friends of Jesus. We ask Thee to help us grow more like him each day. We thank Thee that he came to earth to show us how to live as friends with all Thy children. Fill our hearts with love for them that we may serve them and thee. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE VI (Sung in unison):

"Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

"Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do in work or play,
To grow more loving every day."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Fa-

ther." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring,
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart." "Lord, Speak to He, That I May Speak."

FOURTH SUNDAY: LEE POI IS A FRIEND TO HIS COUNTRY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Lee Poi sat still in the chapel. All the other boys had found their places and were responding.

"Praise ye the Lord!" they sang.

Praise ye the Lord—how?

You see, Lee Poi had had a talk with one of the teachers at Iolani about this very thing. And Lee Poi knew that you couldn't just praise the Lord by making a joyful noise, but you had to praise Him with your two hands and with your two feet, and even with your thinking. But Lee Poi could not praise God with his thinking to-day.

Out beyond the door the Hawaiian sunshine lay softly on the land. Out beyond the land, long, slow, curling breakers rolled in from the Pacific. Lee Poi did not have to see them to know they were there. He knew the beaches well.

"Out there," he thought, "out there, way beyond those breakers, is America." Then he added fiercely to himself, "But I am an American."

Now that was odd. Lee Poi's father and Lee Poi's oldest brother had been born in China

and they were not Americans. But Lee Poi had been born right here in Honolulu and he was an American. If he wished, he could get on a boat and sail to San Francisco and no one could stop him, in spite of what the little white American boy said.

"Ho!" he had said. "You're not an American. You're a dirty Chink." Lee Poi closed his eyes. It made him very angry. No wonder he couldn't sing.

(Praise the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, praise His holy Name.)

"Americans won't let you people into San Francisco."

"Why not?" Lee Poi asked.

"Because you are dirty. You eat rats."

"We don't eat rats! We're not dirty! I hope I am a Chink! I don't want to be an American!" Lee Poi replied defiantly.

"Why don't the white Americans like the Chinese?" he asked his teacher later, after the boy had gone.

"Because they don't know them. Your people do some things Americans do not understand, and until they do understand they probably will always be suspicious."

Now Lee Poi had been proud of being an American because most boys are proud of the country where they are born. And Hawaii belongs to America. He liked to sing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," and he saluted the flag more smartly than any of his classmates. But to-day he did not feel proud.

"America is for the whites," he thought.

And then came another thought.

"Maybe I can do something for the Chinese so Americans can get to know us. That white boy said Chinese are dirty and eat rats. I have heard my father speak of how poor some people are in China and how disease comes over the country. America is clean. Honolulu is clean. I wonder if I couldn't help some way."

And suddenly Lee Poi found his place in his book and entered into the responses.

Time passed and Lee Poi graduated with honors from Iolani. Some of the boys went to America to go to the university, but Lee Poi didn't go.

"I'm going to China," he told his father. "I am going back to your city. There are things America can give China—clean streets and public health. Until China gets these

things from America, America will never know what China can give her."

"That is very funny talk," said his father, "but you must do as you see best."

"Yes," said Lee Poi, "America just sees the dirt and smells the smells."

"You have never been to China, my son; how do you know this?"

"I am an American," said Lee Poi, smiling, "and I know how Americans talk about you."

"There is no reverence in this day," said Lee Poi's father, but he spoke with a smile. "If you can stop the sickness and get the people to prepare for the floods, you will do great things for China."

So Lee Poi sailed, and after many years of hard work he became the mayor of his father's town. And in the course of time the streets of that town became noted for their cleanliness and the death rate became lower. Children learned about hygiene and mothers knew something about the dangers that threatened their babies and how to prevent disease.

"What a fine city you have here!" said an American visitor. "America might well come

here to learn from you. But what a task it must have been! Why did you do it?"

"I was praising the Lord in my own way," said Lee Poi; but the American did not know all that lay behind his words.[1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Salve Domine

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all Thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou Most High."

RESPONSE V (Sung in unison):

"This is God's house and He is here to-day,
He hears each song of praise and listens when
we pray."

HYMN: "Light of the World, We Hail Thee"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 10:9–16

PRAYER (Unison):

O God, our Father, and Father of all chil-

[1] "Praise Ye the Lord," by Dorothy F. McConnell, from *Peacemakers*. Copyright, The National Council, Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S. A. Used by permission.

dren everywhere, we thank Thee that Jesus has shared with us the task of telling other children of Thy love. Give us minds eager to learn about them. Give us hearts filled with the desire to help them, by our gifts, our prayers, and our love. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the friend of all children. Amen.

RESPONSE IV (Sung in unison):

"Father, hear us as we pray,
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

"Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away."

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response VII (Sung in unison):

Dear Father, we Thy children bring,
Our gifts of love to Thee;
Use them for others here at home,
Or far across the sea.

HYMN: "O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Hail to the Brightness of Zion's Glad Morning." "Christ for the World, We Sing."

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

AUGUST: WORLD FRIENDSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

Responses

Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Scripture: Psalm 150

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

Once upon a time there were some children whose faces were round and yellow, and whose hair was black as ink. They lived together in one corner of the big, round earth.

"Let us make a flag for ourselves," they said, "and let us wave it in our corner of the big, round earth, so that everybody shall know it is ours."

So they set to work and made a flag. It was yellow, with a fierce dragon on it, and they loved their flag.

There were some children whose faces were brown and whose bodies were brown, too, and they lived together in another corner of the big, round earth.

"Let us make a flag for ourselves," they said, just as the yellow-faced children had said. "Let us wave it in our corner of the big, round earth, so that everybody shall know it belongs to us."

So they set to work and made a flag. It was white, and on it was a peacock with a yellow tail, and they loved their flag.

There were other children who wore odd red caps with tassels. They lived together in another corner of the big, round earth.

"Let us make a flag for ourselves," they said, just as the yellow-faced and the brown-faced children had said. "Let us wave it in our corner of the big, round earth, so that everybody shall know that it is ours."

So they set to work and made a flag. It was red with a new moon and a star on it, and they loved their flag.

There were other children with faces like ours, and they lived together in the corner of the big, round earth where we live.

"Let us make a flag for ourselves," they said,

just as the yellow-faced and brown-faced children and the children wearing odd red caps with tassels had said. "Let us wave it in our corner of the big, round earth, so that everybody shall know it belongs to us."

So they set to work and made a flag. It was red, white, and blue, with stars and stripes, and they loved their flag.

I have not tried to tell you of all the children in all the corners of the big, round earth, and all the flags they made. There were blue and white flags, and red and white flags, and red and yellow and blue flags, and black and white and red flags. There were flags with stripes and flags with stars. There were flags with suns and flags with moons. There were flags with elephants and flags with lions. The children looked as different as the flags, and dressed and talked differently.

Now really the big, round earth did not belong to these children. It belonged to the One who made it, the Father of all. And it made the Father of all very sad when He saw the children of one corner of the big, round earth trying to get some of the other children's corners.

The trouble was, they did not all know the world's secret. So the Father of all told it to special children. When a child heard the world's secret from the Father of all, he could not rest till he had told it to other children. Sometimes he told it to children in his own corner of the big, round earth. Sometimes a child traveled to other corners and told it. The children do not all know it yet—not nearly all, but new ones are hearing it every day. And when they all hear it the flags will all be waved together, and the children will love their own flags and the flags of the other corners of the big, round earth, too.

I will tell you the world's secret. The first part is this:

"The earth is the Lord's."

The second part is this:

"The Lord is the Father of all."

The third part is this:

"All the children of the big, round earth are brothers and sisters." [1]

[1] "Friends of Jesus All Over the World," by Frances W. Danielson, from the *Mayflower*. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Nicea

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people. For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 1 (Unison)

PRAYER:

Almighty God, Who art the Father of all people who dwell on the earth, teach us, Thy children, to live at peace with one another. Grant that we may have understanding of one another in our minds and love for one another in our hearts, that we may dwell together in close friendship with Jesus Christ, and in the warmth of Thy love. And this we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE VIII (Sung in unison):

Father in heaven, hear our prayer,
For all Thy children everywhere;
Help us to live in joyous peace,
That war throughout the earth may cease.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "In Christ There Is No East nor West"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:
"Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness." "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

SECOND SUNDAY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMORY DRILL
PRESENTATION OF THEME:
"Tell me a story about when you were a great soldier. Tell me about one of the battles

you won," said a little boy to his grandfather.

The old man had been a colonel in the Austrian Army for many years and could recount fierce tales of conquest by his troops. But today he shook his head as he took the boy upon his knee.

"I will tell you instead," he said, "of the greatest battle I ever lost, which was won by braver men than mine."

The little boy was astonished, for he thought that his grandfather's soldiers were the bravest in the world. So he listened eagerly.

"I was commanded," the old colonel began, "to march against a little town in the Tyrol and lay siege to it. We had been meeting stubborn resistance in that part of the country, but we felt sure that we should win because all of the advantages were on our side. My confidence, however, was arrested by a remark from a prisoner we had taken. 'You will never take that town,' he said, 'for they have an Invincible Leader.'

" 'What does the fellow mean?' I inquired of one of my staff. 'And who is this leader of whom he speaks?'

"Nobody seemed able to answer my ques-

tion, and so in case there should be some truth in the report I doubled preparations.

"As we descended through the pass in the Alps I saw with surprise that the cattle were still grazing in the valley, and that women and children—yes, and even men—were working in the fields.

" 'Either they are not expecting us, or this is a trap to catch us,' I thought to myself. As we drew nearer the town we passed people on the road. They smiled and greeted us with a friendly word, and then went on their way. So friendly was their attitude, and so different from the usual reception given us, that my soldiers forgot they were under discipline and returned the greeting.

"Finally we reached the town and clattered up the cobble-paved streets, colors flying, horns sounding a challenge, arms in readiness. The forge of the blacksmith shop was glowing, and the smith left it to stand in the door with a number of others to watch us pass. Suddenly he waved to one of my soldiers and I heard him exclaim, 'I knew that fellow when we were boys together at Innsbruck!'

"Women came to the windows and door-

ways with little babies in their arms. Some looked startled and held the babies closer, then they went quietly on with their household tasks without panic or confusion. As for the boys—little fellows like you, my son—they made us feel as though we were taking part in a glorious parade for their special amusement. They swarmed after us, whooping with delight and asking many questions about our weapons. Apparently they had never seen guns and swords before.

"It was impossible to keep strict discipline, and I began to feel rather foolish. My soldiers answered the questions of the children, and I saw one old warrior throw a kiss to a little golden-haired tot on a doorstep. 'Just the size of my Lisa,' he muttered.

"Still no sign of an ambush. We rode straight to the open square on which the town hall faced. Here, if anywhere, resistance was to be expected. This is what we found: The door of the beautiful old building was wide open. Pigeons flew up from the grass around the fountain as we approached. No cannon or barricade was in sight, and my regiment, as it poured into the square, looked out of place.

"Just as I reached the hall and my guard was drawn up at attention an old white-haired man who, by his insignia, I knew was the mayor stepped forth, followed by ten men in simple peasant costume. They were all dignified, and unabashed by the armed force before them—the most terrible soldiers of the great army of Austria.

"And what did the old man say, in the face of your guns and your cannon?" asked the little boy breathlessly.

"He walked down the steps, straight to my horse's side, and with one hand extended cried, 'Welcome, brother!' One of my aides made a gesture as if to strike him down with his sword, but I saw by the face of the old mayor that this was no trick.

" 'Where are your soldiers?' I demanded.

" 'Soldiers? Why—don't you know we have none?' he replied in wonderment, as though I had said, 'Where are your giants?' or 'Where are your dwarfs?'

" 'But we have come to take this town.'

" 'Well, no one will stop you.'

" 'Are there none here to fight?'

"At this question, the old man's face lit up with a rare smile that I shall always remember. Often afterwards, when engaged in bloody warfare, I would suddenly see that man's smile, and somehow I came to hate my business. His words were simply: 'No, there is no one here to fight. We have chosen Christ for our Leader, and He taught men another way.'"

"What did you do then, grandfather?" asked the little boy eagerly.

"Do you know, son," the old soldier answered, "there seemed nothing left for us to do but to ride away, leaving the town unmolested. It was impossible to take it. If I had ordered my soldiers to fire on those smiling men, women, and children, I knew they would not obey me. Even military discipline has its limits. Could I command the grisly soldier to shoot down the mother or father of the child who reminded him of his Lisa? I reported to headquarters that the town had offered unassailable resistance, although this admission injured my military reputation. But I was right. We had literally been conquered by

these simple folk who followed implicitly the leadership of Jesus Christ." [1]

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Hesperus

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people. For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

[1] "The Invincible Leader," from *The Children's Story Garden.* Collected by a Committee of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends. Anna Pettit Broomell, Chairman. Copyright, J. B. Lippincott Company. Used by permission.

HYMN: "Shepherd of Tender Youth"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matt. 25: 31–46 (Unison)
PRAYER:

Almighty God, Who art the Father of all people who dwell on the earth: teach us, Thy children, to live at peace with one another. Grant that we may have understanding of one another in our minds and love for one another in our hearts, that we may dwell together in close friendship with Jesus Christ, and in the warmth of Thy love. And this we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE VIII (Sung in unison):

Father in heaven, hear our prayer,
For all Thy children everywhere;
Help us to live in joyous peace,
That war throughout the earth may cease.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "O God of Love, O King of Peace"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Come, Thou Almighty King." "In Christ There Is No East or West."

THIRD SUNDAY

Assembly Period

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORY DRILL

PRESENTATION OF THEME:

In South America, there are two countries

named Chile and the Argentine Republic. The one lies along the Pacific, and the other along the Atlantic Ocean. Between them tower the snow-capped Andes Mountains. For years the rulers of Chile and the Argentine Republic quarreled over certain lands and lakes in these mountains. At last their quarrels became so bitter that the people living in the two countries began to prepare for war. Probably very few of these people actually knew what the quarrel was about. But they made their guns, prepared their ammunition, and retained their soldiers and sailors. Every one gave as much money as possible to pay for the preparation. Finally, one Easter week, it seemed as though war would break out at any minute.

And then a wonderful thing happened. On Easter Sunday a certain Bishop Benavente preached to a great congregation. He reminded them that God is the Father of all, he reminded them of Jesus and his teaching about people living happily together as brothers. And he said to them: "When the war is over, shall we know which side was right? No, we shall only know which side had the bigger guns and the larger army."

That sermon set the people to thinking. Soon the news of it spread far and wide. On the other side of the Andes, in Chile, Bishop Java preached the same message to his people.

Then what a different scene the Andes looked down upon. All preparations for war stopped. Everywhere were men and women, boys and girls, talking about peace, and about living happily together as children of the Heavenly Father.

The two rulers asked the king of England to listen to both sides of the quarrel and decide it for them. Of course, he found each side was partly right and partly wrong. He divided the land between them.

But this isn't the end of the story. Bishop Benavente and his friends on both sides of the Andes worked and worked until they had enough money to make a bronze statue of Christ out of the old cannons and guns. They carried this statue to the top of the mountains, 4,000 feet high, first by train, then by mules, and when the mules could go no further, the soldiers and sailors pulled it the rest of the way.

Then came the wonderful night which the people of Argentina and Chile spent on the

mountaintop. The people from Chile slept on the Argentine side, and the people from Argentina slept on the Chile side. Just at sunrise the next day, the statue was unveiled. Together at its foot the people on both sides of the Andes made this vow:

"These mountains will crumble into dust sooner than the people of Argentina and Chile will break the peace which, at the feet of Christ the Redeemer, they have given their word to keep."

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Salve Domine

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people. For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Light of the World, We Hail Thee"
LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 10:9–16 (Unison)
PRAYER:

Almighty God, who art the Father of all people who dwell on the earth: teach us, Thy children, to live at peace with one another. Grant that we may have understanding of one another in our minds, and love for one another in our hearts that we may dwell together in close friendship with Jesus Christ, and in the warmth of Thy love. And this we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE VIII (Sung in unison):

Father in heaven, hear our prayer,
For all Thy children everywhere;
Help us to live in joyous peace,
That war throughout the earth may cease.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

Plates are passed by two of the younger children. (Soft music.)

Response XI (Sung in unison):

"Since my heavenly Father gives me everything,
Lovingly and gladly now my gift I bring."

HYMN: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

ALTERNATIVE HYMNS:

"Hail to the Brightness of Zion's Glad Morning." "Christ for the World, We Sing"

FOURTH SUNDAY

Assembly Period

NOTE TO LEADER: The following play is given in the hope that it will be an appropriate ending to the themes of the year. The small amount of extra work involved will be more than paid for by the response of the children and the community. If possible plan to have your service out of doors. Use a living tree as the Christmas tree. Make arrangements through your demominational headquarters to send Christmas gifts to some foreign mission station. Be sure that each child and every interested adult is encouraged to bring his gifts wrapped and tagged as for the December Christmas tree. Explain to the children that their gifts are going to such a distant land that they must be sent now if they are to arrive in time for Christmas. The following play is adapted from *The Whole World's Christmas Tree,* by Florence Brewer Boeckel, published by the National Council for the Prevention of War, Washington, D. C., and is used by permission. As given, it is intended to be an indoor production; but it can easily be changed, and adapted to the local situation. The number of characters can be lessened or increased so that every child can have a part.

The Whole World's Christmas Tree

NUMBER OF CHARACTERS: From twenty to one hundred children are necessary, the majority ranging in age from eight to eleven years. There is one principal character—a boy or girl of ten. One grown person is required to take the part of Santa Claus.

TIME REQUIRED: The entertainment can be made to fill from half an hour to an hour by decreasing or increasing the number of countries represented.

ARRANGEMENT OF ROOM: A Christmas tree stands at one end of the room, decorated and ready to light. Above the tree, across the stage but not actually forming part of the stage decoration, are the words, preferably in large gold letters, "Suffer Little Children to Come unto Me."

STAGE PROPERTIES REQUIRED: A medium-sized globe stands beneath the tree, and, included among the toys on the tree or beneath it, are a ball-bat, a baseball, a pair of roller skates, a kite, a top, a sled, a doll, a music-box, a bag of marbles, some small wooden animals. A clock or other device for striking twelve must be in the room.

[*A* CHILD *enters in night clothes. He runs toward the tree and touches it here and there. As he moves about, he says:*]

AMERICAN CHILD: I knew they'd finish my tree before they went off to the city's tree downtown. I have lots of time. They won't be back until after midnight, for that's when everybody's going to sing together. [*Sees globe and runs to it and whirls it around.*] This is what I said I wanted! [*Puts arms around it.*] When I grow up I'm going clear around it, and know everybody everywhere. I wonder what they are doing now and if it's Christmas Eve here—and here—and here. [*Points to different countries.*] If I could fly around right quickly now, maybe I could talk to everybody, for all the stories say that animals can talk on Christmas Eve, so why can't children, too? [*He jumps up in his excitement.*] I'd bring them all back here and make my Christmas tree the whole world's tree, not just a city's tree.

[*He runs back to his globe, sits beside it again, and whirls it rapidly around and around while the clock strikes twelve. Through as many entrances as possible, the children in the costumes of as many countries as desired come running in. There should be more than one child rep-*

resenting at least some of the countries. They stand around for a few seconds rather timidly, whispering in groups and looking at the tree; then the CHILD, *still sitting on the floor, stops whirling his globe in astonishment, looks from one group to another, and finally calls out suddenly, "Merry Christmas!" He is even more astonished, and all the other children are astonished, too, when everybody calls quickly, "Merry Christmas!" The* CHILD *jumps up and runs among the others.*]

AMERICAN CHILD: Where did you come from—and you—and you? Did you come to my Christmas tree? Now it *is* the whole world's Christmas Tree.

ANY CHILD: We saw your tree shining far away. You wished us here!

[*The* CHILD *goes over to* ESKIMO BOY.]

AMERICAN CHILD [*speaking to* ESKIMO BOY]: What funny clothes you have! I can't tell what you're like. Are you like me?

ESKIMO BOY: If I wore clothes like yours, I'd freeze [*he looks around*], for all my house is made of snow. My father cuts big blocks of

snow and makes a ring like this, and piles them up like this—and this [*makes motions to indicate placing the blocks of snow on top of each other*] until it's round across the top. There's a little hole to let the smoke out and a tunnel for a door, but we have lots of fun at home and play games, too.

ALL THE CHILDREN: Show us a game!

ESKIMO BOY [*sees sled under the tree and runs toward it*]: I have a sled at home. Mine is made of ice. Sometimes I stick deer antlers in the snow, and when I'm sliding down the hill, as fast as anything, I shoot my arrows at them and knock them over. Could you do that? We play ball, too. See, here's my ball! It's sealskin.

[*If there are other Eskimo children, he tosses the ball in the air and they bat it with their hands.*]

AMERICAN CHILD [*always gaily and with excitement*]: My balls are made of rubber!

[*He takes one off the tree and bounces it.*]

AFRICAN GIRL [*stepping forward*]: Rubber comes from Africa, the country I live in, and so does chocolate for your candies. My brothers play with balls. [*She takes the ball*

from the CHILD.] They roll them along like this and throw spears at them. [*She picks up a doll. The* CHILD, *if a boy is taking the part, says, "That's for my little sister."*] I play dolls, too, but mine are just two sticks crossed so [*She crosses her fingers*] and tied together.

OTHER LITTLE GIRLS [*calling out together*]: I play dolls, too!

JAPANESE BOY [*sees kite on the tree and tries to reach it*]: Oh, will you let me fly your kite? [*Other boys call out, "And then me?" "And me?"*] I think it came from where I live, in Japan. We make kites like fish and flowers and birds, and some of our kites hum like music. One day, every year, is boys' day, and we fly kites shaped like fish in front of our houses—one for every boy in the family.

JAPANESE GIRL [*stepping forward*]: We have a girls' day, too. It's the dolls' feast day. You go from house to house to see each other's dolls, and every one gives you candy.

[INDIAN BOY *sees top, picks it up and begins to spin it. Other children crowd around, saying, "Let me try next!"*]

SWISS CHILD [*seeing small music-box, takes it off the tree and begins to play it, walking a*

little distance from the others]: Music-boxes are made where I live, in Switzerland.

[*Some of the children who have gathered about the one spinning the top move off to one side and begin to play with marbles they have discovered.*]

TURKISH CHILD: In Turkey we make marbles by baking balls of mud.

[*Two* CHINESE CHILDREN *play with two marbles, at one side, kicking one marble gently so that it hits the other while they call out: "Roll east, roll west," etc. While the children play quietly in groups, a* GERMAN CHILD *steps to the* CHILD, *who has been standing at one side, watching the others with much interest.*]

GERMAN CHILD: It was in my country they first had Christmas trees. Sometimes we have two trees. Even very poor people have trees, because we give them to them. Lots and lots of toys are made in Germany. Look on the back of yours sometime and you will see the words, "Made in Germany."

DUTCH CHILD: Santa Claus comes from Holland, where I live!

ENGLISH CHILD: And Christmas plum pud-

ding comes from England, where I live!

AMERICAN CHILD: America gave the turkey and the pumpkin pie to Christmas dinner!

ANOTHER GERMAN CHILD [*picking up a little wooden animal*]: I have watched men carving these little wooden animals and making bows and arrows and sets of furniture for dolls. In our country every one bakes lots of cakes at Christmas time. Some are made to look like trees and some are cut in fancy shapes. Out in the country the people think that animals kneel on Christmas Eve, and that they talk, but no one must ever listen. In some other places the people think that companies of angels fly by overhead, and the people spread their tables with good things to eat and leave lighted candles on them.

ITALIAN CHILD [*who has joined the* GERMAN CHILD *and been listening*]: We don't have Christmas trees in Italy, but we try to fill our houses with flowers, and we build little scenes showing the stable where Jesus was born and the manger where he was laid. There are little figures of animals standing about, and of the shepherds and angels, and children

recite little poems before these scenes. On Christmas Eve we get presents, too, but they are put in a big urn and we draw them out and dance and sing.

SPANISH CHILD: In Spain we have our presents in an urn, too, and we dance and sing all up and down the streets.

FRENCH CHILD: We build little scenes that show the manger, and we make a green hill and sprinkle it with something white to make it look like snow. We show the shepherds on it and hang the figure of an angel up above—the angel who told them the good news that Jesus was born, for that is what our French word for Christmas means: "good news."

SWEDISH CHILD [*stepping up to the group*]: In Sweden we have big Christmas trees, and sometimes our presents are hidden all around them, but sometimes Santa Claus brings them into the room on sleds. The day before Christmas we tie big stalks of wheat and corn to fence posts and trees and to the tiptop of our houses so that the birds will have a Christmas dinner, for all the ground is covered deep with snow.

ENGLISH CHILD: In England we play

games, the children and the grown-up people too. Come on, let's play games!

AMERICAN CHILD: Are there games that everybody knows? Can you play "Hide-and-Seek"?

JAPANESE CHILD: That's what we call "Kalyrembo"!

AMERICAN CHILD: Or "Blindman's-Buff"?

CHINESE CHILD: In China we call it "Call the Chickens Home."

AMERICAN CHILD: Can you play "London Bridge Is Falling Down"?

ALL THE CHILDREN: Yes! yes, let's play that!

GERMAN CHILD: We call it "Golden Bridge" in Germany.

[*While the children are saying, "Let's play that," they begin to line up for the game. While they are playing,* SANTA CLAUS, *pack and all, slips in at one of the doors and joins the end of the line. When he goes under the arch the children catch him with exclamations of surprise.*]

SANTA CLAUS: Merry Christmas, clear around the world! [*The children run around him.*] I shan't have to travel over land and sea

this Christmas Eve, for here you all are gathered round a single tree that stretches its branches out across the world. My pack has things in it from all around the world. If you all pull together, you'll get it open and find the treasures in it.

AMERICAN CHILD: Santa Claus, have you got toys that all of us will like?

SANTA CLAUS: Is there a little boy or girl from anywhere who doesn't like a ball or top or doll? Or how about a bag of candy? I ought to know if any one knows, and I tell you, children are alike the whole world over. They learn different languages and live in different kinds of houses, and some of their fathers and mothers have been civilized, as people call it, for a long time and some haven't; but the children, if you mixed them up and scattered them around, would all change places as easy as anything. Why, doesn't every kind of child turn into an American child without any trouble at all? The trouble is, children don't get around to see the world for themselves. They read about it in books, and lots of things in books are way out of date. Things are happening fast

these days. For one thing, the world is getting smaller right before our eyes. A hundred years ago the world was a year around and now it isn't much more than a month. To-day airplanes fly around me, and the people on one side of the world can say "Merry Christmas" to the people on the other side before I can say "On, Comet and Cupid! On, Donder and Blitzen!" Come on, you children from all over the world, let's try it.

AMERICAN CHILD: You write it down. Say, "Merry Christmas to all the children of the world!"

SUGGESTIONS FOR COSTUMES: The costumes for this play need not be elaborate. If necessary they may be plain white dresses or suits, with headdress or some other detail suggesting the costumes of the countries represented. As a matter of fact, the children of England and of Europe, especially those who live in the cities, dress very much as do those of America. A variety in the costumes will, however, add to the picturesqueness of the stage, and the accompanying suggestions may be helpful.

America. The costume for the American child in this play is a suit of one- or two-piece pajamas in white or any color.

Africa. The African girl may represent the

negro tribes and wear a short white smock, or may be a desert child in loose white robe draped in at waist and shawl-like headdress with folded edge across forehead.

China. The Chinese children should wear costumes with pajama trousers and coats in plain colors, or with flowered coats for the girls.

England. A plain suit, preferably gray or blue flannel, with trousers open at the knee, and a wide white collar, is correct for an English boy. For a girl a simple unbelted dress.

France. The French school child's smock is much like an artist's smock. It is black for boys, with a bright bow-tie, and colored for girls. The tam is of black velvet.

Germany. A colored cloth dress with bright apron may be worn by the German girl, whose hair should be in two braids down her back. The German boy may wear trousers open at the knee, a sport shirt, and soft felt hat with a feather standing up in the band at one side.

Holland. For the boy there should be full trousers, narrower at the ankle. Blue, reds, and yellows, bright dark shades, should be used. The girl's cap is white lawn stiffly starched.

India. A Hindu boy's costume should be a long, loose coat of white cloth with turban. A Hindu girl should wear a white blouse under a cotton cloth costume, of any color, reaching to the ankles, one

end draped and falling over head, or separate head-dress. Sandals may be worn.

Italy. An Italian girl may be dressed in a bright full skirt, and a shawl suggesting Roman stripes. An Italian boy may wear bright colored or black-velvet trousers with sleeveless jacket and white blouse.

Japan. The costume for both boys and girls is a kimono, but the girl's has flowing sleeves and wide sash tied in the back; the boy's has tight sleeves and narrow belt fastened in front.

Lapland. The costume for a Lapland boy or for an Eskimo boy or girl is made with trousers, and as nearly as possible entirely of fur.

Spain. In the Spanish boy's costume, reds and yellows should predominate. A Spanish girl may wear a flounced skirt. and bright-colored shawl over white blouse, and scarf over head.

Sweden. The chief feature of the Swedish girl's costume is her embroidered apron. The Swedish boy may be dressed much as the German.

Switzerland. The Swiss boy should wear a mountain-climbing costume. The color of the costume should be brown or some neutral shade. The Swiss girl wears a full skirt, white blouse, and black-velvet bodice, laced in front.

Turkey. The important feature of the Turkish costume is the fez. The suit may be a loose robe with soft girdle or the long, loose Turkish trousers

tied at the ankle, with short coat, decorated or plain.

Worship Period

PRELUDE: Duke Street

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader):

"O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye people. For His merciful kindness is great towards us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord."

RESPONSE IX (Sung in unison):

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love.

"Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye happy children,
He is love, He is love."

HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)
SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 23 (Unison)
PRAYER:

Almighty God, who art the Father of all people who dwell on the earth, teach us, Thy children, to live at peace with one another. Grant that we may have understanding of one another in our minds, and love for one another in our hearts that we may dwell together in close friendship with Jesus Christ, and in the warmth of Thy love. And this we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE VIII (Sung in unison):

Father in heaven, hear our prayer,
For all Thy children everywhere;
Help us to live in joyous peace,
That war throughout the earth may cease.

OFFERTORY

Sentence (Leader):

"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father." "Freely ye have received; freely give."

While soft music is played, each one present brings his gift to the tree. Then a

small child passes the Birthday Box for the offering. When this is presented, all sing: *Response* XIV (Unison):

As wise men brought their gifts to him,
As shepherds knelt in awe;
So we bring gifts, we give ourselves
To Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
Whom heaven and earth adore.

HYMN: "Christ for the World We Sing"
CLOSING SENTENCE (Unison):

Help our lips to praise Thee,
Help our hands to serve Thee,
Help our hearts to love Thee,
Forever. Amen.

NOTE TO LEADER: Perhaps you will prefer to to have the play Saturday afternoon or evening. In that case, let the gifts be brought at that time. They can be dedicated as a part of the Offertory on Sunday.

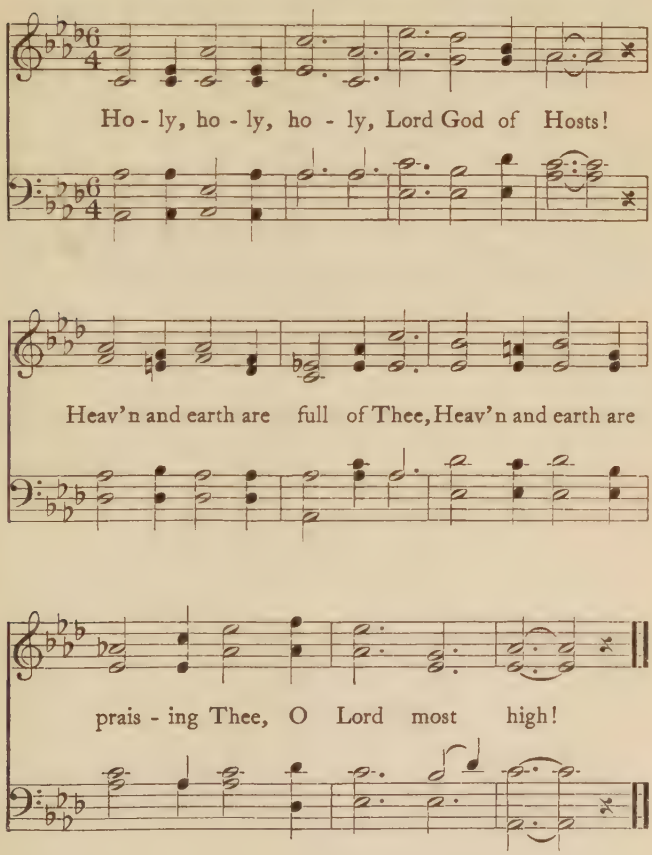
APPENDIX A

MUSIC

I. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts

(CHAUTAUQUA)

MARY A. LATHBURY, 1877 WILLIAM F. SHERWIN, 1877



II. Our Prayer

I. F. L. LORA M. BELL

1. Father, hear us as we pray; Guard and keep us day by day;
2. Help us to be good and true, Je - sus' work on earth to do;

Help us feel Thy lov-ing care, Ev-'ry day and ev-'rywhere.
All we have with others share, Ev-'ry day and ev' rywhere.

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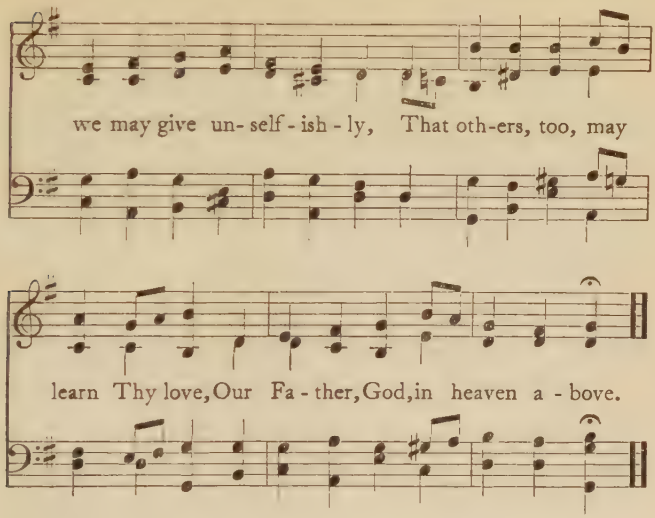
III. Offering Hymn

(CANONBURY)

R. I. REX ROBERT SCHUMANN

O fill our hearts with love for Thee, That



IV. Thy Children Far Away

(*To be sung to tune No. II, "Our Prayer"*)

1 Father, hear us when we pray
For Thy children far away,
Children of the northern snows,
Children where the palm tree grows.

2 Let them feel Thy love divine,
Make them know that they are Thine;
Guide them, Father, day by day,
All Thy children far away.

By Elizabeth T. Turner. From the *Mayflower*. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

V. This is God's House

L. M. Ogelvee W. G. Ogelvee

This is God's house and He is here to - day.

He hears each song of praise and lis - tens when we pray.

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VI. Morning Hymn

Rebecca J. Weston D. Batchellor

1. Fa - ther, we thank Thee for the night,
2. Help us to do the things we should,

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And for the pleas - ant morn - ing light;
To be to oth - ers kind and good;

For rest and food and lov - ing care,
In all we do in work or play,

And all that makes the day so fair.
To grow more lov - ing ev - 'ry day.

VII. Gifts of Love

(BEATITUDO)

R. I. REX — JOHN B. DYKES, 1875

Dear Fa - ther, we Thy chil - dren bring

Our gifts of love to Thee; Use them for

oth - ers here at home, Or far a - cross the sea.

VIII. A Prayer

(*To be sung to tune No. VI "Morning Prayer"*)

Father in heaven, hear our prayer,
For all Thy children everywhere;
Help us to live in joyous peace,
That war throughout the earth may cease.

IX. Praise Him, Praise Him

Arranged by G. W. C.

1. Praise Him, praise Him, all ye hap-py chil-dren,
2. Love Him, love Him, all ye hap-py chil-dren,
3. Thank Him, thank Him, all ye hap-py chil-dren,
4. Serve Him, serve Him, all ye hap-py chil-dren,

He is love, He is love; Praise Him, praise Him,
He is love, He is love; Love Him, love Him,
He is love, He is love; Thank Him, thank Him,
He is love, He is love; Serve Him, serve Him,

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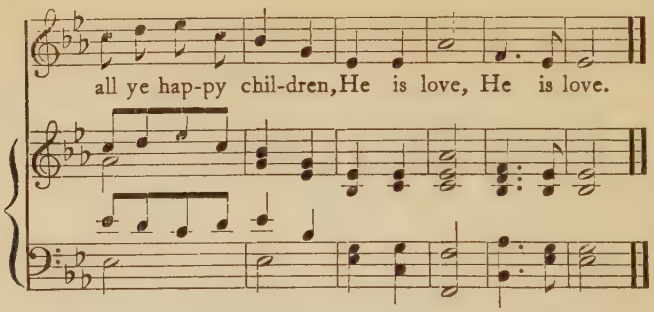
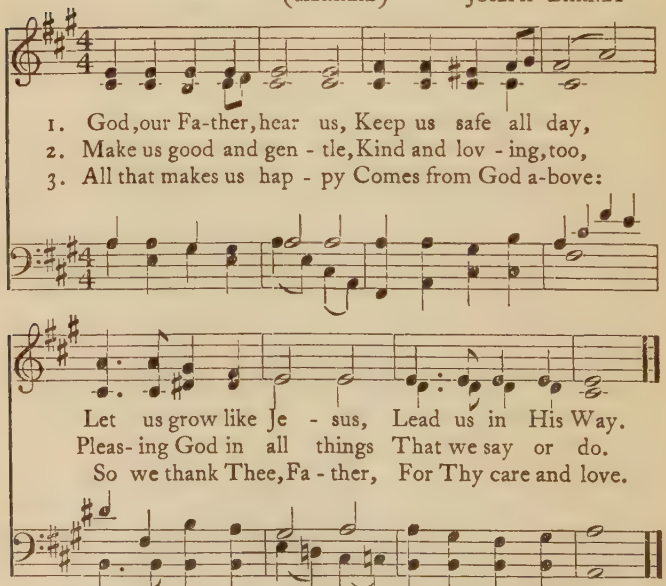


X. God, Our Father, Hear Us

(MERRIAL) JOSEPH BARNBY



Words used by permission of Miss Caroline L. Fiedler. From *Prayers for Children*, Morehouse Publishing Co.

XI. Offering Hymn

LOUISE M. OGELVEE W. G. OGELVEE

Since my heav'nly Fa - ther gives me ev-'ry- thing,

Lov-ing- ly and glad - ly now my gift I bring.

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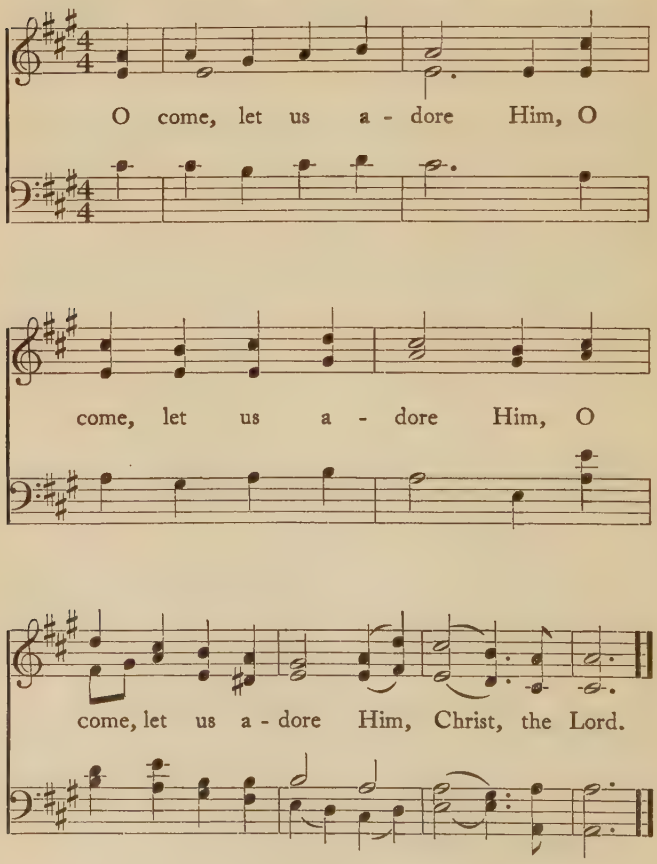
XII. O Come, Let Us Adore Him

(ADESTE FIDELES)

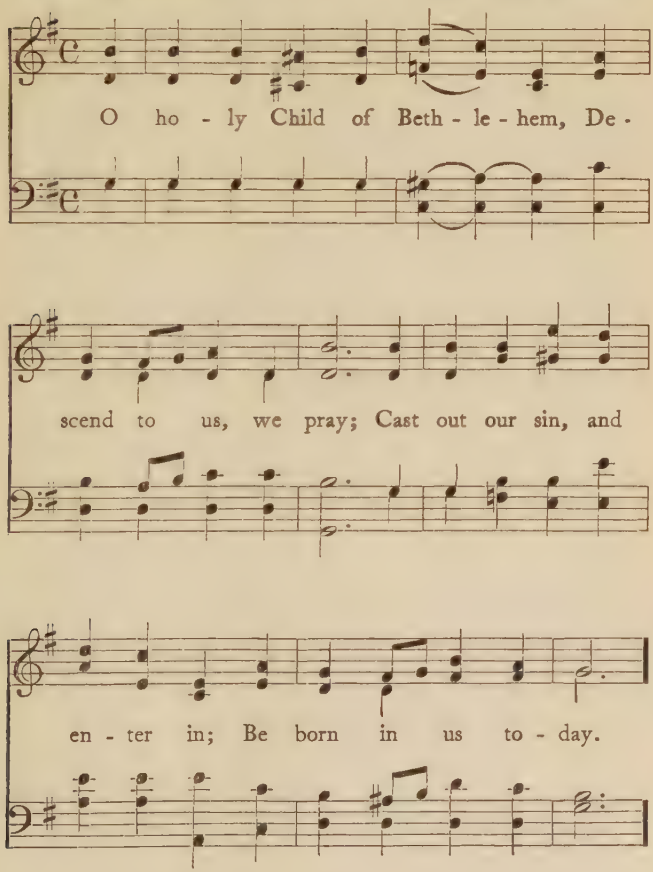
Latin Hymn, 17th Cent. WADE's Cantus Diversi

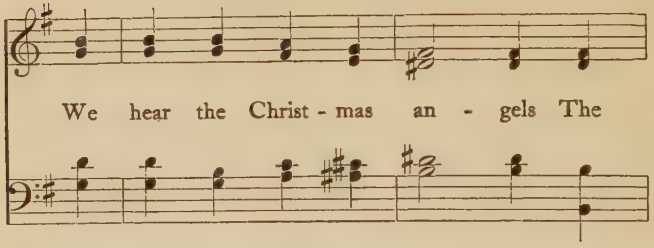


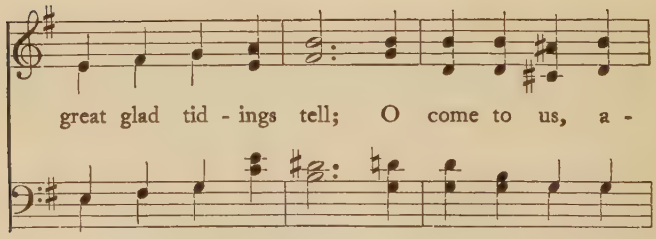
XIII. O Holy Child of Bethlehem

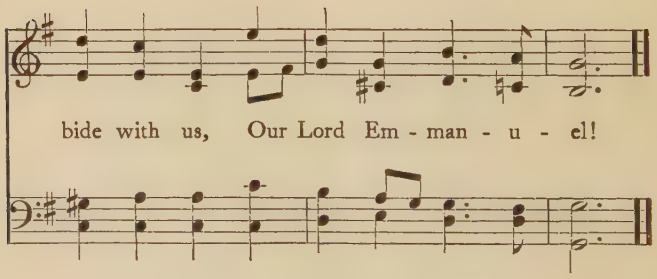
(ST. LOUIS)

PHILLIPS BROOKS LEWIS H. REDNER




We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The


great glad tid - ings tell; O come to us, a -


bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el!

XIV. Christmas Gifts

(WHITTIER)

R. I. REX FREDERICK C. MAKER

As wise men brought their gifts to Him, As

shep - herds knelt in awe; So we bring gifts, we

give our - selves, To Je - sus Christ the

chil-dren's friend, Whom heav'n and earth a - dore.

XV. Worship Song

(SEYMOUR)

WILLIAM WALSHAM HOW CARL M. VON WEBER

Lord, this day Thy chil - dren meet

In Thy house, with will -ing feet; Un - to Thee this

day they raise Grate - ful hearts in hymns of praise.

From *A Child's Garden of Song*, by Thomas and Sneath. Copyright, The Century Co.

XVI. Hear Us, O Our Father

THOMAS B. POLLOCK (Altered) — Arr. from LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

1. Be Thou with us ev - 'ry day,
2. Make us brave, with - out a fear;

In our work and in our play, When we sing and
Make us strong and full of cheer, Sure that Thou art

when we pray—Hear us, O our Fa - ther.
al - ways near And wilt hear us, Fa - ther.

From *A Child's Garden of Song*, by Thomas and Sneath. Copyright, The Century Co.

XVII. God's Messengers

(DALEHURST)

R. I. REX — ARTHUR COTTMAN

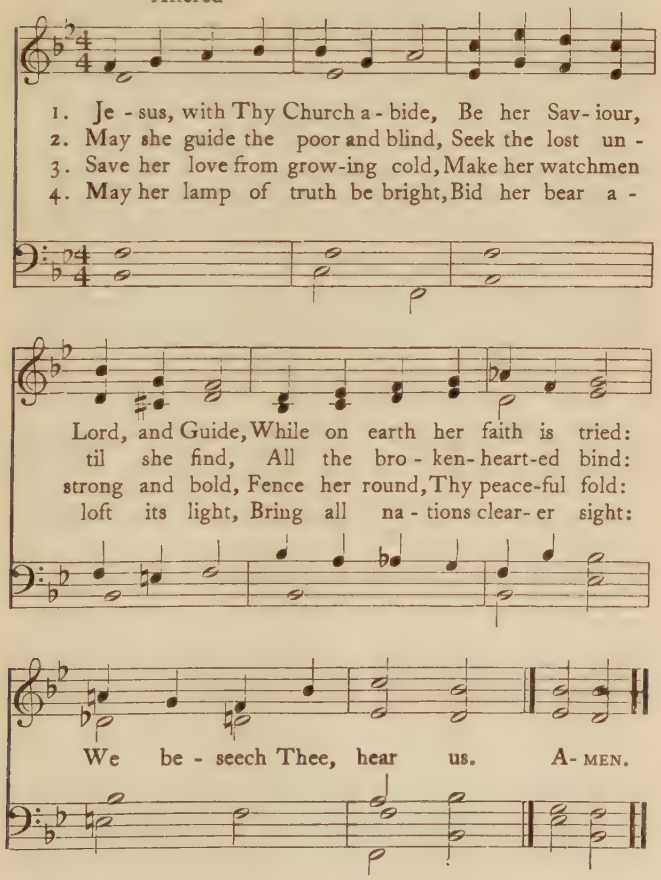
We bring our gifts, we bring our-selves, Our

Fa - ther, God, to Thee; Make them, make us, we

pray Thee, Lord, Thy mes - sen - gers to be.

XVIII. Jesus, with Thy Church Abide

THOMAS B. POLLOCK, 1871 Altered — FREDERICK A. J. HERVEY



XIX. Jesus, Friend of Little Children

Rev. Walter J. Mathams — Adapted from J. H. Maunder

1. Je-sus, Friend of lit - tle children, Be a friend to me;
2. Teach me how to grow in goodness Dai-ly as I grow;

Take my hand and ev - er keep me Close to Thee.
Thou hast been a child, and sure - ly Thou dost know.

From *Songs for Little People*, by Danielson and Conant. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

XX. Jesus Loves Me

Anna Warner — William B. Bradbury

Je - sus loves me! this I know,

From *Songs for Little People*, by Danielson and Conant. Copyright, The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission.

For the Bi - ble tells me so. Lit - tle ones to

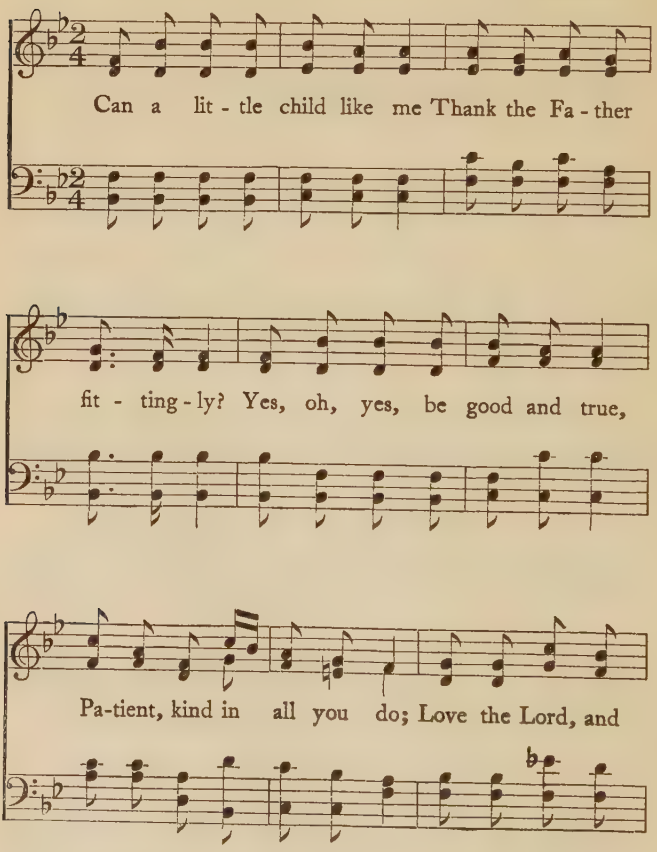
Him be - long, They are weak but He is strong.

Yes, Je - sus loves me, Yes, Je - sus loves me,

Yes, Je - sus loves me, The Bi - ble tells me so.

XXI. Can a Little Child Like Me

MARY MAPES DODGE W. K. BASSFORD



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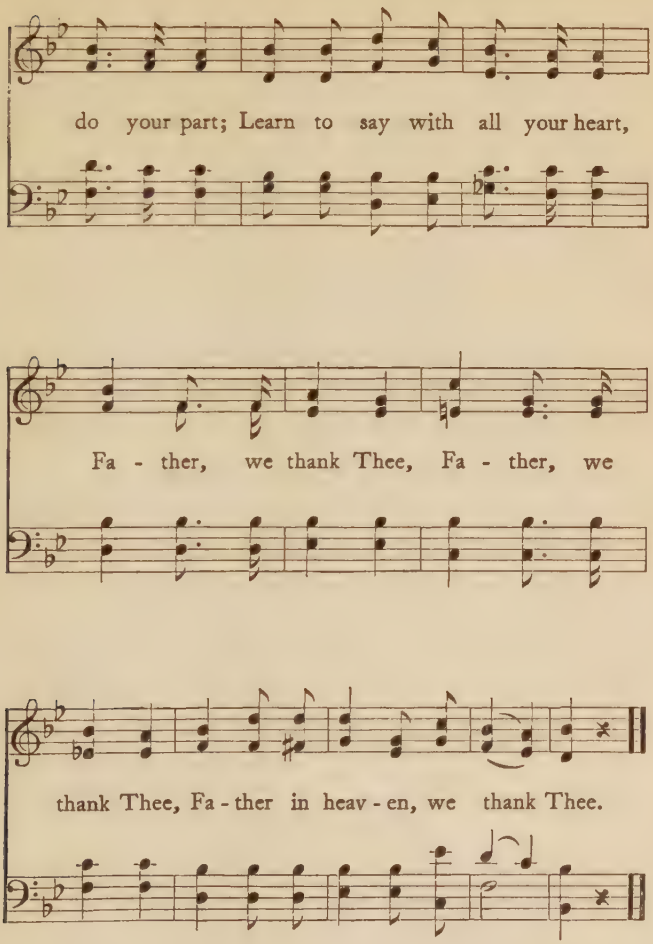
do your part; Learn to say with all your heart,
Fa - ther, we thank Thee, Fa - ther, we
thank Thee, Fa - ther in heav - en, we thank Thee.

APPENDIX B

SUPPLEMENTARY STORIES

APPENDIX B

Supplementary Stories

(For Palm Sunday)

JOEL'S FIRST TRIP TO JERUSALEM[1]

By Ethel L. Smither

For months, yes, even years, Joel had looked forward to his first trip to Jerusalem. Every year when the spring rains stopped and the sunshine came again, making the new green of the wheat gleam like jewels, filling the roadside with the scarlet and purple and gold of the lilies, bringing the birds with their songs of joy, Joel had seen his father and mother set out for Jerusalem. They went to keep the great feast.

Every year he had said: "Father, when may I go? When shall I be big enough?"

So one day his father had led Joel outside of their square gray house and by the door-

[1] From the *Picture Story Paper*, April 1, 1928. Copyright, The Methodist Book Concern. Used by permission.

way he had put a mark. "See, my son," he said, "when you are twelve years old, and when your head reaches the top of this mark, then you may go to Jerusalem."

This spring Joel had measured himself. He felt the top of his head and it touched the mark! He was twelve years old and his father had said that he was old enough.

So, when the little group of his friends and kinsfolk and his father and mother had started out from the little village, Joel was ready to go, too. They traveled the long, long road south. At night they slept by the roadside. Some of the men watched, for sometimes there were robbers on this road. Joel's mother kept him close beside her all through the night.

In the morning they started out again. During the day they traveled along the steep road from Jericho to Jerusalem. Just at sunset they camped on the hills outside the city. Joel's heart swelled with pride and joy as he looked at the beautiful white and gold temple. The great city spread out before him. He was almost at Jerusalem! He sang with gladness as the others sang:

"My feet are standing
Within thy gates, O Jerusalem!"

The next morning they came to his uncle's house. He received them with great joy. Joel's cousin, Jude, who was two years older than Joel, took him all through the bazaars. He saw men from every part of the world, it seemed. They had all come, as had he, to keep the feast. He heard them speaking in their strange languages. He bought some raisins and dates, and a curiously shaped copper pot for his mother.

On Sunday Jude said: "Let's go to the gate and watch the crowds coming in. The Passover time is come and there will be more crowds to-day than ever."

So the two boys hurried along in the bright spring sunlight to the city gate, by which the people entered from the Jericho road. They passed through the crowded streets. More and more people were coming to Jerusalem all the time. Some of the streets were narrow and crooked. Some were like flights of stairs. In some streets they had to push by donkeys. In others there was a clanging and jangling

of camels' bells. Everywhere were crowds of people.

At last they came to the gate. They stopped and watched the people coming in to the feast. Suddenly they looked down the road. Just outside the gateway a great procession was moving.

"What is it?" asked Joel.

"I do not know," answered Jude.

The boys hastened forward. Some of the people were singing. Men and women and children seemed so happy and joyous, and yet they were acting curiously.

"What are they doing?" asked Joel.

"I do not know," replied Jude. "Let's go closer and see."

As they came nearer they saw that some of the men and women were casting their robes in the road. Some had climbed up palm trees growing along the way and cut down branches and spread them in the roadway. The boys looked on with wonder. Riding over the cloaks and palm-strewn way, in the midst of the singing crowd, came Jesus.

"Who is he?" asked Jude.

"Oh, I know," said Joel. "It is Jesus, the

great Teacher. I know him and love him. Once I helped him to feed a great crowd who were hungry. I shared my loaves and fishes and Jesus was pleased. Listen to what the people are singing."

"God bless the Son of David," sang the people over and over.

As Jesus rode over the palm branches and the cloaks, the people would snatch them up, and, running ahead, would cast them again in his way. Jesus' face was alight with gladness.

Catching up palm branches and casting them before Jesus, Joel and Jude, too, ran along with the people, bringing Jesus like a King into Jerusalem, singing clearly and gladly and lovingly:

"God bless the Son of David."

A STORY OF EASTER [1]

(For Easter Sunday)

Two children stood looking at the flowers in a beautiful garden. They often came to

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look through the gate, for they loved to watch the gardener at work, weeding and digging among the lilies. The garden belonged to a man named Joseph of Arimathea. There were great rocks in the garden and bright flowers and pretty vines grew in the cracks and between the rocks.

The children lived in a little square clay house by the side of the dusty road. They had no garden, but they often gathered the lilies that grew in the fields near by and sometimes they played at making gardens, and built stone walls around them like the wall around the garden of Joseph of Arimathea. The children came often to look through the gate in the wall.

To-day they went slowly in, hand in hand, for a stone-cutter was chipping away the stone in a cave in one of the rocks. He chipped and the children watched, until the cave was a clean and sparkling place.

The children wondered. They wanted to ask the stone-cutter about it. The little, white, sparkling chips of stone lay on the path and on the grass. The children came nearer and picked them up. Their hands were full of the

pretty chips. They could use them in many ways in their play.

But they wondered about the little room in the rock, and one of them said, "Why do you chip the stone?"

The stone-cutter answered, "The man who owns this garden wants this room made beautiful, for his dear friend is very tired and is to rest here for a while."

"Who is his dear friend?" asked one of the children.

"Jesus of Nazareth, who went about doing good," said the stone-cutter.

"We know Jesus!" cried both children; and then one said, "He is my friend, too, for only the other day he stopped to watch us play at making gardens, and he took my little brother in his arms."

"And we saw him down on the shore of the lake," said the other child. "We were playing with shells and he came, and a great many people came with him. He told stories and I am sure never to forget what he said."

"We were glad when we heard that he was coming to Jerusalem, not many days ago," said the taller of the children, "for we wanted

to see him again. A great many people ran out of the city to meet him and we ran too. He came, riding on a colt, and his friends were with him. The children crowded to the roadside so that they could see him. We all sang, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!' We waved branches of palm as he passed. Some of the children had gathered lilies, and these they threw into the road before him to make it more beautiful. Every one was glad to see him coming. Is he so tired?"

"Perhaps," said the other, "he went to the hill to-day with those who carried crosses. There have been such heavy clouds that we could not see for the storm that was coming. Was Jesus with them, do you think?"

"Jesus was there," said the stone-cutter, "and those who did not know him nailed him to a cross. His friends will soon bring him here to rest for a while in this little white room." The stone-cutter stood up and looked down the road, shading his eyes with his hand. "Yes," he said, "they are coming now."

The children looked and saw the loving friends of Jesus carry him gently through the

garden gate and lay him in the little room in the rock. The children were sad, but they were sure that Jesus would rest in such a beautiful place. They saw the friend who had brought him roll a great stone across the door of the room.

When the stone-cutter turned and saw the children still standing there, outside the gate, he said, "Run, run to your home, little children, and tell those who are there that Jesus is at rest." And the children ran down the road to their home with their hands full of sparkling chips of stone.

They thought often of Jesus, asleep in that quiet room, and on the Sabbath day they started very early, for they were going to the garden to look through the gate. When they came to the garden wall they heard voices, and it surprised them that there should be people in the garden so early. The sun had just risen and the wet lily buds were not yet open.

As the children looked through the gate they saw a woman, and at first they thought that she was speaking with the gardener, but no! it was Jesus, the friend of the children—

Jesus of Nazareth, who went about doing good! Now the children knew that he was rested. They saw that the great stone was rolled away from the door of the room in the rock, and they looked in, but the room was so bright now that they had to close their eyes. It was like looking at the bright summer sun.

"Come!" said the tall child, and they went away very quietly, for they did not wish to disturb their Friend, as he walked among the lily buds that were just opening because morning had come. They went up the road toward Jerusalem, and they went to the temple and heard the ministers teaching the people. Late in the afternoon as they were coming home they met two men walking, and Jesus was with them.

It was just as the stone-cutter had said. Jesus had rested and now he walked with his friends again. But sometimes he was with them when they could not see him, as he is with us, now.

One day some of the friends of Jesus came by, telling of wonderful things. The people crowded around them to hear what they had to tell, and the children were with them. They heard the friends of Jesus say, "We were with

him, and he said, 'Lo, I am with you always.' A soft cloud of mist came about him and we saw him no more."

But the people said, "If Jesus has gone from you where you cannot see him, why do your eyes shine, and why are you glad?"

The friends of Jesus said, "He is with us now, and we will be with him, forever."

The children heard and were happy, for they knew that Jesus was with them, even to the end of the world.

THE WIND AND CHRISTMAS GIFTS[1]

(For Christmas Sunday)

"A little new baby is coming!" sang the wind, as it blew to and fro in the summer afternoon.

This was a secret, a beautiful secret, but one that might be told, so it whispered to the meadow grass.

"A new baby!" said the grass. "How lovely! When will he come?"

"In the wintertime," said the wind.

The grass rustled sadly. "Then I shall not

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be here. I shall be cut down and burned in the baker's great oven, or fed to the cattle, or left to wither."

But the wind murmured, "Perhaps you may see him—who knows?"

"A little new baby is coming!" said the wind to the gentle cow that stood in the meadow.

"A tiny baby?" said the cow. "If I could only see him! Where will he be found?"

"In Bethlehem of Judea."

The cow shook her head, and her soft eyes were troubled. "Then I shall not see him. He will be in a great house like my master's, and I shall be in the stable. They would not bring him out among the humble beasts. There is no gift I could offer him."

"But you may see him—who can tell?" said the wind, as it hurried on.

"A little new baby is coming!" it told the shaggy gray donkey.

"Where will he be born?" asked the donkey.

"In the town of Bethlehem."

The donkey's ears drooped, and he was most unhappy. "Then I shall not see him. If he

was to be born in the country, he might visit the creatures of the farm, but he would never see my stable yard."

"Perhaps that will be the very place he will choose," said the wind, as it blew away.

"A little new baby is coming!" it told a small lamp.

"Where will he stay?" asked the lamp.

"In Bethlehem," said the wind.

"Then I shall not see him," mourned the small lamp. "Of course he will be in a great house where there are lamps with scented oil. He would never see my tiny light."

"Perhaps it may be the brightest thing he will see," said the wind, as it blew toward the hills. The sun had set, and the stars were twinkling, one by one.

"A little new baby is coming!" said the wind, as it blew under the starry sky.

"When will he come?" asked the smallest star.

"When a beautiful song has been sung," answered the wind.

"Then I shall not see him. Very likely it will be in the daytime, and I shall be asleep."

"Perhaps you will be the first one awake,"

said the wind, as it blew toward the sea. But the smallest star was too disappointed to shine.

"A little new baby is coming!" said the wind to the woolly lamb in the pasture.

"Where will he stay?" asked the woolly lamb.

"In his mother's arms, at first," said the wind.

The woolly lamb hung his head. "Then I shall not see him. If he is so tiny, he will not come to the pasture where I feed." And the little lamb was so grieved that he scarcely nibbled the tender grass.

After the wind had gone, the eyes of the gentle cow grew happy again. "If the little child should need a place to rest and sleep, I know what I can offer. That shall be my gift to him." And the gentle cow folded her feet under her, and rested in the grass.

The grass itself was more cheery. "I shall not be green in the winter, but if farmer will cut me down, I will dry into soft, sweet-smelling hay. Then I can make a fitting gift to the little child." And the grass waved gaily in the warm summer air.

The shaggy gray donkey pricked up his ears

and looked contented. "I shall always be ready to trot cheerfully, and it may be that I can serve the little child and his mother. That will be my gift to him." When his master called, the donkey trotted to him gladly, and was patted for obeying so quickly.

The small lamp flamed up bright and clear. "I shall make my very best light," it said. "Then if the little child should need me, I can be of help to him." And instead of flickering dully, it burned with a steady light.

The star came up over the sea, and took its place in the sky. "I shall stay awake every minute, for perhaps I may see the little child, or light some one to his door. At least, I shall twinkle my brightest."

The woolly lamb capered about gleefully. "I shall eat and play as I have always done, and grow the finest wool that a lamb ever wore. Then, if I see the little child, I can offer him a gift of my very own." And he gamboled through the meadow.

Then came a night when there were many people in Bethlehem. Every house was filled, and every inn. In one inn there was no room for all who wanted to spend the night there,

and two of them, named Mary and Joseph, had no place to go.

"We can sleep in the stable," said Joseph, and they went to find a place there.

"The little new baby needs all your gifts," whispered the wind that night, as it blew from the hill to the sea, and back across the meadow.

"Let him sleep in my manger with his mother," said the gentle cow. "I offer that as his bed."

"I will make the bed soft," said the grass, and it filled the manger with fragrant hay.

"Wrap the little child in the warm blanket," said the woolly lamb. "It was made as a gift for him out of my own white wool."

"Place me beside the manger, and I will give my brightest light," said the small lamp. "I will burn all night, through the dark."

"I am shining to guide the shepherds to the stable door, and to guide the Wise Men across the desert," said the star. "Never have I been so beautifully bright as on this birthday of the little child."

"I carried the little child's mother to Bethlehem," said the gray donkey, "and when she

takes him away to his own home they both may ride on my strong back."

"Dear friends, good creatures," said the wind, "I knew that you would all see the Christ-Child. How glad you must be that you planned these gifts!"

Up in the blue night sky the bright star shone, and the shepherds and the Wise Men pointed to it as their guide. The gentle cow lay down beside the shaggy donkey, and in the soft lamplight the eyes of the two were full of content. The woolly lamb looked at the baby in his warm blanket and was glad. The grass rustled gently under the baby's tiny feet, and the wind hushed to a whisper, for Mary and the baby Jesus were asleep.

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